

# MacHome

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Solutions for Work, Play, & Education

## Holiday Gift Guide

### 87 Gift Giving Ideas

Also in this issue:

Tips & Tricks

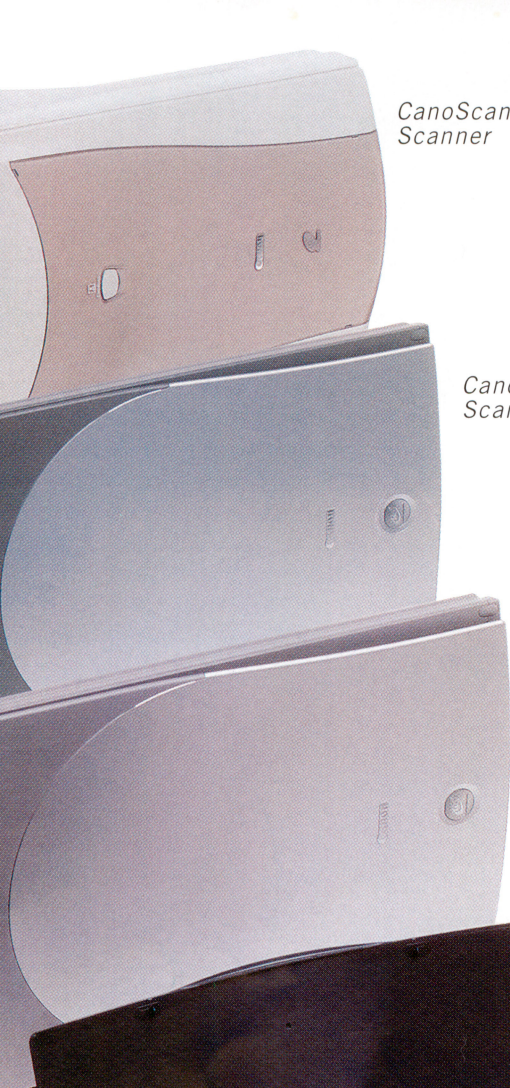
The New Mac Workshop

Charitable Websites

You Ask, We Answer







*CanoScan D660U  
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*CanoScan N656U  
Scanner*

*CanoScan N1220U  
Scanner*



*BJC-85 Printer*

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David

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# Microsoft **Office:mac** 2001

[microsoft.com/mac](http://microsoft.com/mac)



# December 2000 Contents [\[www.machome.com\]](http://www.machome.com)

Volume 8, Number 12

## The Holiday Issue

### Exploring OS X Public Beta \_\_\_\_\_ 20

*By Ross Tibbits*

It's Roman numeral time. OS X promises some notable improvements under the hood, as well as cosmetic changes to how we use our Macs. Learn what's coming as we take an advanced look at this update. Take a look at a few of the apps that are included. Then if you're ready to taste from the beta pot, read what you can do to sample a beta version of X for yourself

### Annual Holiday Gift

### Guide Sensation \_\_\_\_\_ 26

*By MacHome Staff*

Still don't know what to get for that Mac fanatic in your life? Don't fret! Check-out our biggest ever Holiday Gift Guide for just the right gift for your loved one.



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*Read all about it: news, products, rumors, gossip, quotes, and innuendo*

- Mac OS X public beta released
- New iBooks
- Norton's Internet Security
- EZ-Motion Web banner software
- HP unleashes new inkjets
- Aeromouse swoops down
- Maxtor's FireWire hard drive



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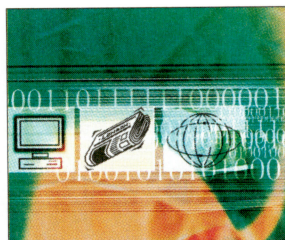
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## 17 Products Reviewed

### Your Office: Software

- ★★★★★ GoLive 5
- ★★★★ Microsoft Word 2001
- ★★★★ QuickConference 1.5
- ★★★★i Quik Sync 2
- ★★★★ SoftWindows 98
- ★★★★ VirusBarrier 1.0

### Your Office: Hardware

- ★★★★★ HP DeskJet 990Cse
- ★★★★ IBM Infoprint 12
- ★★★★i SoundSticks

### Entertainment

- ★★★★i Asteroids
- ★★★★ Mixman DJ Megamix
- ★★★★ Star Trek Starship Creator: WARP II
- ★★★★ Wheel of Fortune

### Your Family

- ★★★★i Blue's Reading Time Activities
- ★★★★ 2001 Grolier Multimedia Encyclopedia — Deluxe Edition
- ★★★★i Jump Start 1st Grade
- ★★★★ Reading Blaster

## Our Rating System

- ★★★★★ **Mac-nificent.** You gotta get it. No flaws.
- ★★★★ **Excellent.** Recommended even if it has a minor flaw or two.
- ★★★★ **Average.** Despite problems, still a worthwhile product.
- ★★★ **Below Average.** Has serious flaws that limit its usefulness or fun.
- ★★ **Poor.** Avoid this product at all costs.



Indicates iMac/G3 compatibility



## Happy Holidays!

**This issue marks an anniversary** — the very first copy of MacHome went on sale nine years ago this month. I know that quite a few of you have been reading us ever since, and I wanted a chance to say, "Thank you!"

It's been an up-and-down-and-up-again ride behind Apple, but I wouldn't trade it for anything. Looking back over some of our early issues I have to chuckle; the Mac we touted as "the best" for your perfect home office had just 4MB of RAM, an 80MB hard drive, and cost over \$3,000 with a 14" color monitor.

Today, I'm writing this on a G4 Cube with 128MB of RAM and a 20GB hard drive — this system costs almost the same, but my, what a difference this flat-panel Studio Display makes!

This month, we take a first look at the public beta of Mac OS X, beginning on page 20.

It's beautiful, and

the final version, slated for release early next year, will change the way you interact with your Mac forever. Stay posted — we'll be giving you monthly updates on Apple's new operating system, along with vital information on how this upgrade affects you and all of your favorite applications.

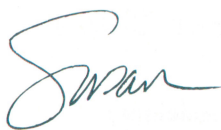
Haven't started your holiday shopping yet? Our Holiday Gift Guide begins on page 26 and gives you 83 gift ideas and suggestions for all the Mac lovers on your list. If you can't find what you're looking for here, by the way, visit [www.guide.apple.com/usindex.html](http://www.guide.apple.com/usindex.html) for a

searchable database of more than 18,000 Mac-compatible products.

We also give you a close-up of Microsoft's brand-new Word 2001 on page 53, and later issues will cover the rest of the Office suite. Microsoft has made some radical changes and updates to the applications and say they deliver more than 40 features that work only on the Macintosh. We've reviewed and rated 20 products throughout the issue; there's a great article beginning on page 72, filled with tips and tricks for your favorite games; the Mac Workshop shows you how to create your own personal greeting cards ... and much more.

And finally, we've introduced a new feature that we hope you'll use every month — I call it the Feedback Forum, and its purpose is to let you tell us what you want to read. You can rate each department and feature on usefulness, readability, etc., and you can use it to suggest topics for future articles, workshops, and CD content. I hope that you'll take a few minutes after you're done with the issue to tell us what you think: [www.machome.com/decfeedback](http://www.machome.com/decfeedback).

Enjoy!



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*I'd rather create clocks than invoices.*

***If I wanted to keep books all day, I'd have been an accountant.***



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## Illuminating? Intelligent? Illustrious?

I've been looking for an answer to this question. Can you help me? "What does the "i" stand for in iMac?" Thanks for your help!

— Tara Milmine

*Aw, shucks! We're blushing. Actually, MacHome has a CD-ROM as well — it comes to subscribers six times a year.*

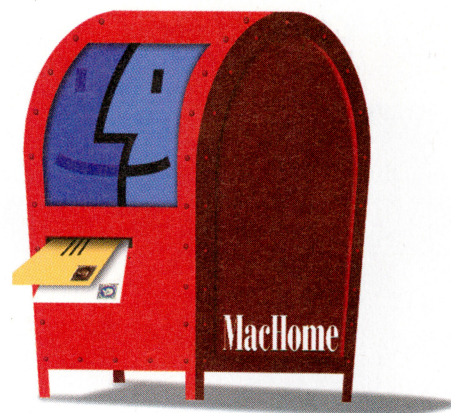
## Funds Well Spent?

In your May 2000 editorial you asked to know what people are doing with their Macs. This is what is being done with some Macs at our school.

... A library aid in the local public school, my wife and her small troupe of volunteers were continually taking material home for preparation. Typing author cards, title cards, subject cards, spine labels, card labels and pocket labels, and when done entering this information again into a nearly useless ClarisWorks 4 database — a database that was poorly designed and consequently under utilized. This was one small troop of unhappy campers. So, I volunteered my services to design a ClarisWorks database that would push this application to the limit. The school skeptically accepted my generous offer.

From its humble beginnings on a small LC III, the third revision is now running in all four of the district's libraries on a variety of hardware configurations. ClarisWorks 4 has long since been upgraded to version 5. The fourth revision of the database is also being offered as shareware by the AppleWorks Users Group (AWUG). I hope a fifth revision will be in beta this fall.

Library software can cost as little as several hundred dollars per installed machine or in excess of \$10,000 per site. In most cases the hardware is separately priced. The typical small public school library has between 2,000 and 5,000 volumes in its collection. At the high end of the market it can cost as much as \$5 to catalog a \$4 book. This is simply insane. Walk into the typical school and look at all of the computers sitting around doing nothing while an untrained library aid struggles to repair old materials and type



labels, catalog cards, and other documentation and reports on an old IBM Selectric. Strange, to say the least.

I am disappointed, though not surprised that I've had no inquiries about the Library Database template being offered on the AWUG Website. Yet I keep hearing of school after school purchasing and installing electronic catalog software and extra hardware, while their collections become outdated. The nonfiction books in my wife's library have copyright dates that go back as far as 20 years. In another school they decided to discard 20-year-old nonfiction books only to learn that they would not have any books in the library. That agreed upon age had to be increased to 30 years so that there were books in the collection to circulate. The thousands of dollars being spent for hardware and software to automate the catalog, in my opinion, would be better spent purchasing new materials.

In yet another discussion with a PTA volunteer, I learned that the administration thought that automating the data entry portion of the "check-out" process would not only simplify the process, but make the children stand in line quietly. No way. Automation will not make unruly children behave. But somehow the "miracle of automation" and "electronic catalogs" will cure all of the ills in the library.

I apologize for getting on the ol' soapbox, but this topic is very emotional for me.

— Joseph Chiko

## Migration Muddles

Because of the acclaim from your magazine, I decided to convert from Netscape 4.7 to Internet Explorer 5 and Outlook Express 5, but the conversion has been far from painless. My Bookmarks were (fairly) easily imported as Favorites into IE. However, all the favorites were stored in one folder. What had been folders in Netscape became subfolders in IE. After an hour or two of editing, I was able to clean up the mess. But worse was the mess in Outlook. Netscape Messenger allows the creation of several address books. Outlook does not. When I imported my address book, I lost access to all my other address books. With Outlook, when a message arrives, I have the option of deleting it from the server. But this must be done manually with every message. With Netscape Communicator, using the Preferences, I have the option of automatically deleting the message once it is downloaded to my computer.

... I suspect I will be trying to convert all my messages and favorites back to Netscape in a few days.

— Larry Hammer

## True, True.

MacHome Journal is the best magazine for the Mac I have come across, though others come with a CD-ROM. MacHome Journal has better articles and is more fun to read.

— David Chung



## But What about Those Other Guys?

The issue has been raised about Apple's "all sales final" clause and its short warranty period. How does that compare to other computer manufacturers, especially Dell, which I've heard good things about?

— Robert Drebit

Other companies tend to have similar policies, although there is no norm. We think Apple's rules are in the middle of the road.

## Warranty Woes

Hey guys, maybe you can help me get some results! I bought a 400MHz PowerBook from MacWarehouse a little more than a year ago and it's taken a toll on me both financially and emotionally.

When it arrived I was happy. So happy that I thought the little dark spots in the corners would warm up. What did I know? I had it a month and the screen burned out. I had to pack it up and send it back to Apple. When I got it back from Apple the fan would not stop running. I spoke with Apple and they ran me through all kinds of at-home diagnostics — still nothing. The PowerBook started overheating and crashing so I had to send it back, anyway. It was the longest five days of my life. I got it back and Apple assured me that my laptop was in A1 condition. As soon as I took it out of the shipping box I noticed that the latch to keep it securely closed was broken. When I pressed it in, it stayed in. Never mind the small stuff, I thought, it was good to see my old friend again. With the smell of hot-buttered popcorn still in the air, my wife and I settled down to watch "Three Kings" on my laptop DVD player. But instead of the opening credits, my screen read, "Your Apple DVD software did not load properly. Try reinstalling it." I did, but no matter how many times I installed, reinstalled, or Vulcan mind-melded it, nothing happened. A couple of days later I decided to run the Apple profiler. The results were unbelievable! No DVD decoder present. Can you imagine this?! Not only had they not fixed my Mac, they broke the latch and took my decoder. Mind-boggling, to say the least.

Apple will not replace the machine nor refund my money; it will only agree to fix it. Call me crazy, but I wouldn't take my car back to a garage after they were supposed to fix a leak in my radiator and I ended up with my radio missing and two leaks!

— Arissona Negron

## write to us...

Please write us with your comments! All letters are assumed intended for publication and may be edited. You can reach us by snail mail at: 703 Market Street, Suite 535, San Francisco, CA 94103, or by email:

letters@machome.com

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# Mac OS X-treme

## Apple Expo Paris Bonanza

If you were sitting on the edge of your chair awaiting the release of Mac OS X, then there's a treat in store for you — the Mac OS X Public Beta, unleashed by CEO Steve Jobs at Apple Expo Paris. But don't get carried away: A public beta is still, well, beta, with all the caveats that implies. That means this hotly awaited new operating system is not a finished product, and improvements will be made before the final software is launched in early 2001. And, it'll cost you \$30. (For more details about Mac OS X, plus a report on our test drive of the beta software, see page 18.)

As of press time, Apple had no plans to give a price break on the final version of the new OS to those who buy the beta. Nor has Apple priced the final version of Mac OS X. If you choose to purchase the public beta, you can get it only on CD from Apple's Website, and it will expire on May 15, 2001. As a beta tester, you (yes, you!) are invited to find more information and give your feedback via a new section of the Apple Website at [www.apple.com/macosex](http://www.apple.com/macosex). The Apple Website also has an OS X Support page (accessible from the Feedback page) to answer questions about the new software.

We admit this is all very exciting, but unfortunately, not everyone will be able to test the Mac OS X beta. For one thing, you'll need a Power Mac G3 (Beige or Blue and White) or a G4. All iMacs, G3 PowerBooks, and iBooks can also run Mac OS X. Apple recommends that you have at least 128MB of memory as well.

Hardware that did not come with your Mac, such as trackballs, expansion cards, SCSI, ADB, and FireWire devices, may not work with the Mac OS X beta. But then, test driving the beta is not an all or nothing proposition. Unlike other system upgrades, this beta version lets you switch back and forth between Mac OS 9 and Mac OS X whenever you want to.



## FireWire Storage

**Okay, so who** doesn't need

another few gigabytes of storage space? Not too many of you, particularly if you're getting into audio, video, or multimedia.

If you've got FireWire, have a look at **Maxtor's external hard**

**drive**, measuring a tight 1 5/8 x 6 x

8 5/8 inches. The 40GB model will set you back \$280 and the 80GB model costs \$400.

Maxtor, 800-262-9867, [www.maxtor.com](http://www.maxtor.com)



Aside from Mac OS X, Apple Expo Paris was the site of — gasp — new hardware announcements. One might have assumed that after that hardware orgy called Macworld Expo New York, they'd give it a rest. But no.

Apple introduced two new **iBooks** — in **Key Lime** (yup, like the pie) and **Indigo** (like Steve's jeans). The wow factor lays not only in the new color scheme but in souped-up technical capability. Not only will the new iBooks ship with FireWire and iMovie 2, Apple's consumer software for producing desktop video, both also pack 366MHz G3 processors, a 10GB hard drive, and 64MB of RAM for \$1,499. The iBook Special Edition, which had, once upon a time, come only in Graphite, now sports this season's hot new color: Key Lime. It features a 466MHz G3 processor, 64MB of RAM, a 10GB hard drive, and DVD ROM drive for \$1,799.

Not an afterthought: Apple announced that for an extra \$100, Power Mac G4 and Cube owners can get an ATI Radeon graphics accelerator card for advanced 3D graphics as a build-to-order option.

Apple, 800-538-9696, [www.apple.com](http://www.apple.com)



## Tell us what you think!

We look forward to hearing from our readers. Write us a quick note and tell us what you think of this month's issue!

[www.machome.com/decfeedback](http://www.machome.com/decfeedback)



# FireWire with a DIFFERENCE

VST's line of portable USB, FireWire® and PowerBook® peripherals represent the ultimate in performance, ultra-compact, light-weight packaging, and plug-and-play ease of use.

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The VST FireWire™ and USB/FireWire Combo Hard Drives provide the perfect solution for anyone with portable, high-performance storage needs. Small enough to fit in a shirt pocket, these high-speed drives are powerful tools for demanding professional applications where large files, such as digital video, graphics and audio need to be stored and edited.

The drives come complete with SoundJam™ MP Free as well as Aladdin™ software. In addition, they also include VST Format, the premiere drive set-up application that includes HotPlug Events™, a program that lets you configure the drive to automatically launch applications stored on the drive. Now these drives can be much more than simple storage devices, they can serve as a portable jukebox as well.

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is the ideal solution for those  
looking for high speed  
desktop storage.

**Tri-Media Reader**  
This 3-in-1 USB floppy drive,  
CompactFlash™, SmartMedia™  
and IBM MicroDrive™ (CF+) reader is ideal for convenient transfer of digital images to and from a CPU using just one USB port while occupying minimal desk space.





## Card Talk

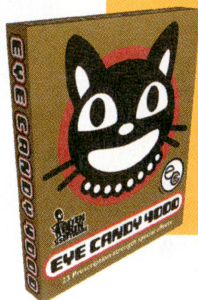
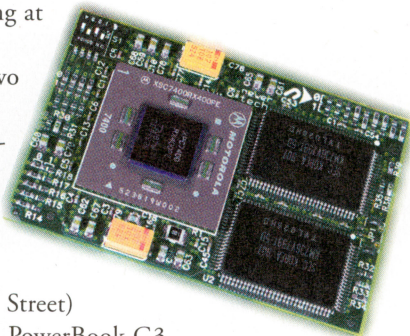
**Are you looking to upgrade** your older Mac? If so, you might check out a new series of upgrade cards from Sonnet Technologies. The company has enhanced a portion of its Crescendo line of G3 and G4 upgrade cards featuring a technology it calls Fortissimo, which is designed to accelerate certain PCI, NuBus Macs, and the PowerBook 1400 beyond the limitations of their original bus speeds. These new cards feature a separate bus on the upgrade card that runs at twice the speed of the motherboard.

You can install a G3 upgrade in NuBus Power Macs 6100 through 8100 with original bus speeds ranging from 30MHz to 40MHz. For PCI Macs, including the 7300, 7500, 7600, 8500, 8600, 9500, and 9600, and some clones, a Crescendo G4 500MHz is also available. Prices range from \$400 to \$800.

Newer Technology has introduced several new upgrade cards for those with more recent Mac models. First there's the 500MHz MAXpower G4-ZIF for all Beige and Blue and White Power Macs for \$799. This card, which supports Apple's Velocity Engine, comes with 1MB of L2 backside cache operating at 250MHz.

There are also two models of a new card for the PowerBook G3: the MAXpower G3-PB 466, a 466MHz upgrade for the 1998 (Wall Street) and 1999 (Bronze) PowerBook G3. They range in price from \$549 to \$599. But beware: Newer has to configure the cards from your old CPU, so it takes five business days for the upgrade to be ready.

But say you've got an iMac. Well, Newer's got some goodies for you, too! It is now shipping the iMAXpower G4 433, a G4 iMac processor upgrade with 1MB backside cache for \$549 (after a rebate that requires you to ship Newer your original iMac processor card). If you own one of the first four iMac versions (revs A, B, C, and D) and OS 9, this one is designed for you. *Sonnet Technologies, 800-786-6260, [www.sonnettech.com](http://www.sonnettech.com)*  
*Newer Technology, 316-943-0222, [www.newertech.com](http://www.newertech.com)*



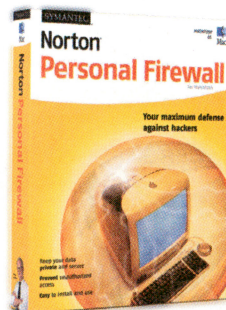
## Norton Empire

**If you've already got a Norton habit** — first with Norton Utilities diagnostic and disk repair software and Norton AntiVirus — Symantec announced it will integrate both into **Norton SystemWorks 1.0** for \$130.

The combined software package, which is compatible with both Mac OS 9 and OS X, includes the newly updated Norton Utilities 6, Norton AntiVirus 7, and LiveUpdate 1.6, the Internet software that automatically downloads updates and product patches.

The updated utilities package (\$100 if purchased separately) features improved data recovery, plus now you can optimize your drives for specific uses. The antivirus program (\$70 if purchased separately) automatically scans e-mail for viruses and performs repairs as needed, and lets you choose the level of protection you need.

But what if you need more security from viruses, hackers, and illegal access? Symantec has come out with Norton Internet Security. The Internet Security package, which will be available in mid-November for \$100, includes Norton Personal Firewall 1.0 (\$70 if purchased separately), Norton AntiVirus 7 and Aladdin's iClean, a utility that cleans Internet cookies, removes browser cache files and history files, and more. *Symantec, 800-441-7234, [www.symantec.com](http://www.symantec.com)*



## Alien Skin Nation

**Chrome, Cutout, Jiggle, Squint,** Water Drops, Weave. Need we say more? We're talking about Alien Skin Software's **Eye Candy 4000**.

This new set of Photoshop filters gives you new special-effect filters such as Shadowlab, Marble and Wood, and Melt for your graphics and photos. This version, for \$169, features an intuitive interface, unlimited undos, new bevel profile and color gradient editors, seamless tiling, hundreds of presets to create complex effects, previews that include underlying layers, and more.

*Alien Skin Software, 888-921-7546, [www.alienskin.com](http://www.alienskin.com)*





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## Printer Madness

If you're a professional who needs a USB color inkjet that will make quick work of your images, have a look at three new ones from Hewlett-Packard. The HP **DeskJet 990Cse** (\$399), the **PhotoSmart 1218** (\$499), and the **PhotoSmart 1215** (\$399).

The 990Cse gives you automatic two-sided printing, and a print speed of 17 pages per minute for black and 13 ppm for color.

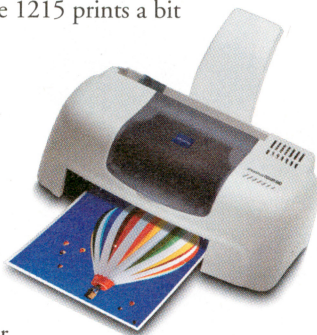
The PhotoSmart models feature CompactFlash and SmartMedia memory card slots that allow you to print directly from the cards without having to first download the images to your computer. The 1218 also gives you networking capability with a print speed identical to the 990Cse. The 1215 prints a bit slower at 15 ppm for black and 12 ppm for color.

All three printers feature optical paper sensing technology, which can detect the type of paper in the printer tray and automatically adjust the settings for the best print quality. All feature infrared printing, letting you beam and print directly from palms, digital cameras, and other mobile devices. All three give you resolutions of 2,400 x 1,200 dpi using photo paper.

Not to be outdone, Epson has a new four-color inkjet coming at you for \$69. It's the Stylus Color 580, targeted toward home users. The printer has a 1,440-dpi print resolution and prints 6 ppm in black and 2.5 ppm in color.

Hewlett-Packard, 800-752-0900, [www.hp.com](http://www.hp.com)

Epson, 800-463-7766, [www.epson.com](http://www.epson.com)



## Bryce 4.1 Update Arrives

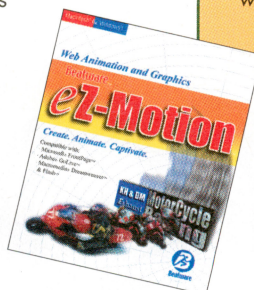
**Aficionados of otherworldly landscapes** take note: Corel has announced **Bryce 4.1**, a free update to the terrestrial landscape creator and animation package. Look for new mapping modes such as Sinusoidal, World Front, World Side, World Cubic, and Object Cubic. This version will let you generate a custom Starfield Map, representing stars that are visible from Earth. A free download is available at [www.corel.com/support/downloads/index.htm](http://www.corel.com/support/downloads/index.htm)

Corel, 800-772-6735, [www.corel.com](http://www.corel.com)

## Banners are Good — Really!

**Say what you want about** Website banners, but many small businesses find them helpful and profitable for online advertising campaigns and other promotions — unless you factor in the cost of hiring a professional graphic designer to create one for you. Beatware has developed **eZ-Motion**, a \$99 software package aimed at SOHO and small businesses that helps create sophisticated animations and graphics for use in Web banners — no experience necessary. Just use the pre-loaded templates and professionally designed animations and artwork included with the program.

Beatware, 650-556-7906, [www.beatware.com](http://www.beatware.com)



## All-in-One Shooter

**Those digital cameras** — they're doing more and more these days. Take the **Ricoh RDC-i700**. This digital camera can capture images and video, send and receive e-mail with attachments, send images via fax, surf the Web, create documents and HTML files with images, and transfer image and data files directly from the camera.

The RDC-i700, for \$1,500, lets you do all this by inserting a modem card, LAN adapter, or storage card into the expansion

slot. It's no slouch

when it comes to

image quality

either,

as the RDC-

i700 has a 3.34

megapixel CCD capable of resolutions of up to 2,048 x 1,536 pixels. A 3X optical zoom gives you a 35mm lens equivalent of 35mm to 105mm.

The camera features a rotating 3.5-inch touch screen LCD for viewing multimedia, images, presentations, files, and Web pages. A stylus pen that ships with the unit lets you edit images, jot down notes on screen, or enter text via an on-screen keyboard. And if that's not enough, Microsoft Word and Excel templates are integrated inside the camera.

Ricoh, 800-225-1899,

[www.ricohzone.com](http://www.ricohzone.com)





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For more information, call 1-800-GO-EPSON or visit [epson.com](http://epson.com).



## Mousin' Around

While many developed a swift affection for Apple's new Pro Mouse, it's not the only mouse in the house, so to speak. Mac users have their choice with the **AeroMouse** from Xsense, a 900MHz RF (that's radio frequency to you) wireless mouse for \$60. With the receiver plugged into your USB port, this mouse gives you 100% cord-free usage without interference for some 15 feet. The mouse is constructed with two programmable buttons, a scrolling wheel, and an auto-sleep feature that saves you battery life.

Xsense Connectivity, 800-642-8860, [www.macsense.com](http://www.macsense.com)



## Give It Your Best PowerShot

Get ready for some mighty fine photos. Canon has introduced the **PowerShot G1**, a 3.3 megapixel camera, for \$999. It features a 3X optical zoom with a range of 34mm to 102mm. It's got an LCD monitor that rotates up to 270 degrees, and it's compatible with both Type I and Type II CompactFlash cards as well as IBM microdrives. But how does it capture your images? With an exposure sensitivity of 50 ISO to 400 ISO, shutter speeds from 8 seconds to 1/1,000 of a second, and built-in flash, you get images of up to 2,048 x 1,536 pixels. You can shoot close-ups within 2.3 inches of the lens. Multiple manual

settings let professionals and serious amateurs take creative control of their images. Use your USB or serial connection to download the images to your Mac.

Canon, 800-652-2666, [www.usa.canon.com](http://www.usa.canon.com)



## Yo, New Laser Printer!

Some things just look sharper and reproduce better in black-and-white. Xerox has introduced the **DocuPrint P1210** Personal Laser Printer for \$499, for home and small offices. This networkable model (the network option costs an extra \$149) prints 12 pages per minute at 1,200 dots per inch, connecting through your USB port. The printer can accommodate card stock, transparencies, envelopes and labels, as well as a range of paper sizes. It includes a 350-sheet paper tray. While the printer comes with a PostScript emulator, a PostScript Level 3 option is available for \$149.

Xerox, 877-362-6567, [www.xerox.com](http://www.xerox.com)



## It's Retractable

Whereas computer users tend to be swamped with cords, you certainly don't want to carry a tangled up mess around with you on the road. Belkin has introduced the **Retractable Modem Cord**

Cord for your



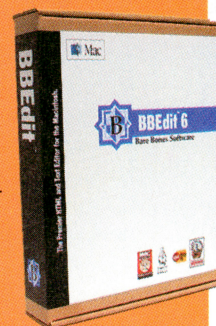
PowerBook or iBook. This device, for \$20, helps you manage and eliminate telephone cords in your carrying case. It stores a retractable phone cord of up to 10 feet and features an auto-retract button. It's specially designed to protect the RJ-11 plugs and gives you built-in storage for an eCoupler (an extension piece that lets you connect two phone cords together).

Belkin, 800-223-5546, [www.belkin.com](http://www.belkin.com)

## BEdit 6 Debut

Web maven who crave control can hand code to their heart's content with **BEdit 6**, the latest release of this text and HTML editor. This version, for \$119, includes markup tools via contextual menus, and support for XML, HTML 4.01, XHTML, and more.

Bare Bones Software, 781-687-0700, [www.barebones.com](http://www.barebones.com)





# Mac OS

By Ross Tibbits

A large, bold, blue letter 'X' with a black outline. To the left of the letter, there is a cartoon illustration. It shows a person in a white suit standing on a ladder, reaching up towards a yellow starburst shape. Below the person is a computer monitor displaying a blue screen with a white 'V' shape. To the left of the monitor is a green box with a white 'M' logo. The entire illustration is set against a white background.

# Getting *Aquainted* with Apple's revolutionary new operating system



In 1986, I bought my first computer, a Macintosh 512K. Back then it had much of the same appeal that the iMac has today — you could pick it up with the built-in handle, there was no internal fan so that it ran silently, it only took minutes to set up, and you were greeted with a smiling Mac. But the real joy came with the graphical user interface, allowing you to identify files, folders, and programs with icons on your desktop, or in individual windows rather than by numerous lines of confusing text and DOS prompts like “b:.” Locating folders and files was simple because you could give them unique names and place them in easy to find folders on your desktop or hard drive.

Just two years earlier, in February 1984, Gregory Marks wrote a preliminary review of the Macintosh 512K in MicroNews. He noted, “The Mac represents a fundamentally different view of what a computer should be, a view that is very human-oriented rather than computer-oriented.”

The release of Mac OS X Public Beta is arguably the most important development at Apple in years. Indeed, Apple's future is dependent upon its success. If the public is drawn to the new operating system, or OS, then Apple has succeeded in its quest to make its computers friendlier and even more human-oriented. The question many now have is whether or not Apple's new OS continues along those same lines as it strives to update the ageing, yet highly-functional and easy-to-use Mac OS 9.

## Beta Testing 101

Because this is the first time that Apple has released a Public Beta, you may not be very familiar with a beta test or the what this process entails. Just so that you don't go into this blind, we want to help you get started by answering some basic questions, and then we'll get into some detail about Mac OS X and some of its new features.



In the computer industry, a beta test is the second phase of a program's testing in which it is released to a portion of its intended audience — usually developers. They in turn provide important feedback on what they like and don't like in a program. This process also identifies bugs and any compatibility problems before the program reaches consumers.

Apple expects that the Public Beta will appeal most to the platform's early adopters and technology leaders — those people who always have the latest in updated software. Apple says they are comfortable with technology and are usually self-sufficient. By contrast, the final version will appeal to the technology geek, the infrequent user, and novice users alike.

If you decide to purchase the Public Beta of Mac OS X for \$30, you will take on the role of tester, and you can have a direct impact on the final version when Apple releases it in early 2001. Yet, for those of you who are not programmers or developers, you'll need to be sure that this testing is right for you and the resources at your disposal. Apple suggests, as does *MacHome*, that you take appropriate care when installing this new OS. That means that you should have solid backups of your current hard drive and any other important files. You should also follow the instruction included with the Public Beta. By the way, Apple does provide technical support with this Public Beta release — but on a “pay-per-incident” basis, whereby you are charged for Apple's assistance.

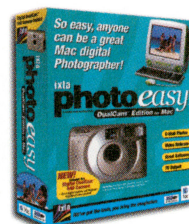
## Installation

Installing the Public Beta on your Macintosh will only take about 15 minutes. Simply load the CD, double-click on the installer and away you go. Once you have successfully installed the OS, the Setup Assistant will walk you through the process of getting everything set just the way you want so that you can be up and running in just a few minutes — just like Mac OS 9.

**"You know, you can afford to e-mail your Nana a picture once in a while!"**



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Includes Corel® Custom Photo software, Canto Cumulus 5.0 LE, and Ixla's new DualCam 640™ camera.



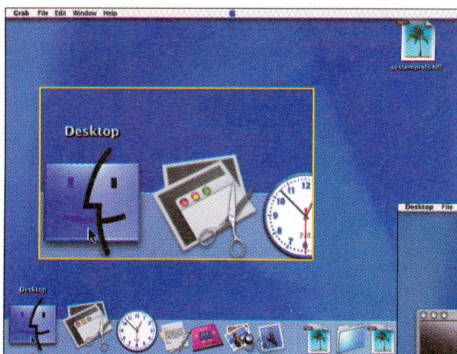
Features true 640 x 480 resolution, store up to 32 photos, built-in flash, TV output, video enabled, USB cable, focus-free lens and a self-timer.



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**The Desktop** is now located within the Dock, at the bottom of the screen. Double-click on it to reveal the contents of your hard drive in the Finder.

Because Mac OS X comes with Internet Explorer, you can be surfing the Internet by simply entering the appropriate settings into the Setup assistant.



## Aqua Looks Cool

Arguably, one of the most striking changes you'll see on Mac OS X is the new look. Apple calls this Aqua. It takes the old graphical user interface and brings it to a whole new level. One thing for sure, it looks refreshed and updated. Part of this look comes from the use of icons that are 128 x 128 pixels in size. Apple currently uses icons that are 32 x 32 pixels in size. This significant increase in the number of pixels contributes dramatically to the clarity that is so present throughout the OS. It is also a lot brighter, almost too bright some might say.

## The Dock

The other most notable changes you'll notice are the Dock and Apple's new Finder. The Dock is located at the bottom of the screen and acts as a place to organize your applications and documents. The Dock's size and animation are adjustable. You can even set it to appear only when you move your pointer to the bottom of the screen. Despite being really neat to watch, the Dock can be distracting for those of us more interested in getting work done than in playing with ani-

ated features. On the plus side, it does let you store applications and documents with tremendous ease, freeing-up precious desktop real estate. You can also drag and drop items directly from the Finder (which I'll discuss in a moment).

The animations in Mac OS X are meant to help connect the application or document you are working on with its location — leading you visually to where it is.

In this vein, Apple has developed sheets which emerge animatedly from the top of the window you are working in — much like a drop down menu — when you want to save or print a document. After you've entered your file data or decided to print, click OK and the sheet swoops back into the top of your active window. It's subtle, out of the way, and it works very nicely to save you from cluttering up your desktop.

# Beta Be Careful...

**T**he New Mac OS X is available through the Apple Store online for \$30 ([www.apple.com](http://www.apple.com)). Apple recommends that you run it on a machine with at least 128MB of RAM, and it's best to run it on a "spare" machine — one that's not used for anything else. That's because beta software, by its very nature, is going to be buggy, so you wouldn't want to run Mac OS X Beta on a machine that houses your child's science project — you never know, with beta software, about the stability of your data.

Nonetheless, if you have the wherewithal, take part in the great Mac OS X Beta-test. It's a way of casting your vote, a way of having your say. It's you (the public) that Apple really wants to hear from.

Apple has made the process easy by providing a simple feedbackforum on the Web ([www.apple.com/macosx/beta/feedback.html](http://www.apple.com/macosx/beta/feedback.html)), which asks you to sort your comments into three categories: General Comment, Bug Report, and Feature Request. This will help Apple make sense out of the thousands of replies they're likely to get, but it will also help you, the "beta-tester." It's good to keep in mind the difference between "bugs" (errors in the OS's expected functioning), "design omissions" (For example, there's no "More Info" button on one panel as there is on another), and "nice-to-haves" (Wouldn't it be great to have one button that saves the state of all open applications?).

Of all the comments you're likely to make, the Bug Report is the one which requires the most attention — that's because if Apple can't repeat your problem in Cupertino, California, they won't be able to fix it. So, try to isolate the problem so that it repeats, and carefully spell out the conditions that create the problem.

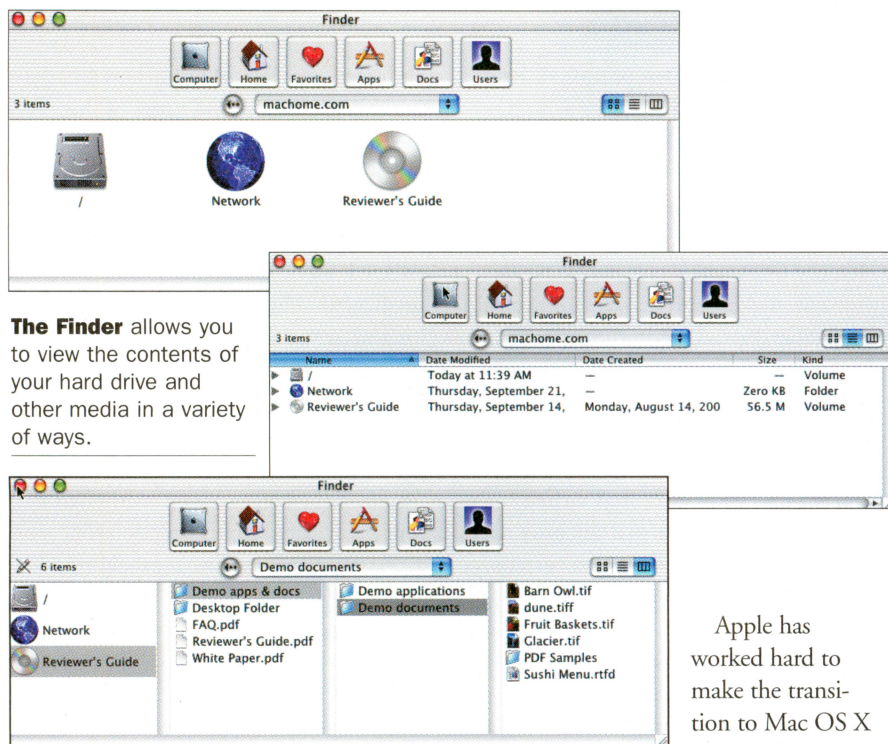
But have fun, and also provide plenty of nice-to-haves. It's up to you!



## Mac OS X Public Beta Restart Tip:

**The Special Menu in Mac OS X doesn't have a Restart command by default.** Hold down Option while selecting the Special Menu to make Restart available.





**The Finder** allows you to view the contents of your hard drive and other media in a variety of ways.

## The Finder

The Finder has been redesigned. No longer does it refer to your entire desktop. It's now located in the Dock at the bottom of the screen, and when you click on it, it opens up to reveal the contents of your hard drive and other media such as CD-ROMs. This is, as Apple says, "your gateway to your computer and network." Indeed, by clicking on the hard drive icon in the Finder, its contents are listed for you in one clutter-free window. No longer are you subject to numerous windows opening up as you search your hard drive for files that are nested deep within folders. Once you get used to this system, I think you'll find it works very efficiently.

## Mac OS 9 Classic Environment

When you load Mac OS X, you have the option of partitioning your hard drive so that it retains the Mac OS 9 system and adds a partition that runs Mac OS X. Essentially, partitioning divides your hard drive into two parts. If you would like to start-up your computer running Mac OS 9, just go to the Finder and select Startup Disk. You can then select from two hard drives, the old Mac OS 9 drive and the new Mac OS X drive. Simply select the Mac OS 9 drive and then restart your Mac.

Apple has worked hard to make the transition to Mac OS X as smooth as possible.

To do this, the company has developed Classic, a program that let's you run Mac OS 9 from within Mac OS X. When you click on the Classic icon within the Finder, a new window will open up and allow you to run programs like Word just as though you were in Mac OS 9 — the same toolbar and everything. You'll notice a decrease in speed and overall performance, but rest assured, you can still run Mac OS 9 software. Fortunately, if you crash while running Classic, you won't have to restart your computer, you'll only have to relaunch Classic. When you are through with the Classic environment, simply quit the program and the Mac OS X toolbar will reappear with the Aqua environment, just as you left it.

## Memory

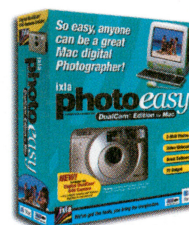
The core of Mac OS X is based on Darwin, what Apple likes to call "the next generation in the evolution of modern operating systems." And, at the heart of Darwin lies the Mach 3.0 microkernel which manages the computer's processor and its memory.

Mac OS 9 allocates RAM very differently than Mac OS X. When you open a program in Mac OS 9, it allocates all the RAM that is specifically designated to that program. The problem with this is that once a program like Photoshop (which is memory intensive) is open, your Mac will

"Some say it was a miracle. I knew it was IXLA."



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Features true 640 x 480 resolution, store up to 32 photos, built-in flash, TV output, video enabled, USB cable, focus-free lens and a self-timer.



# Who Can Run Mac OS X Public Beta?

1. PowerBook G3 (with white Apple logo)
2. iMac (all models and speeds)
3. Beige PowerMac G3 (all models and speeds)
4. Blue & White PowerMac G3 (all speeds)
5. Graphite PowerMac G4 (all ZIF-based)
6. Graphite PowerMac G4 (all Sawtooth)

## Who can't run Mac OS X, according to Apple:

Anyone who owns a PowerPC Macintosh that originally shipped with a 601, 603, 603e, 604, 604e or Mach V processor.

### Including:

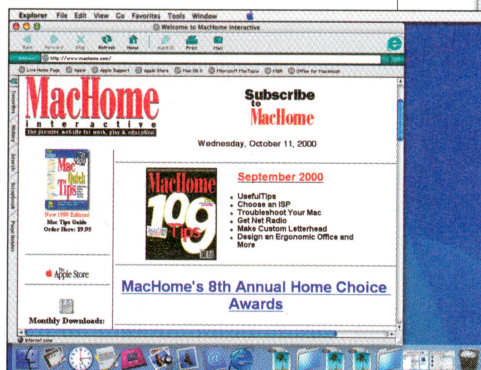
1. PowerBook 1400
2. PowerBook 2400
3. PowerBook 3400
4. 4400 Series
5. 5200 Series
6. 5400 Series
7. 5500 Series
8. 6100 Series
9. 6200 Series
10. 6300 Series
11. 6400 Series
12. 6500 Series
13. 7100 Series
14. 7200 Series
15. 7300 Series
16. 7500 Series
17. 7600 Series
18. 8100 Series
19. 8200 Series
20. 8500 Series
21. 8600 Series
22. 9500 Series
23. 9600 Series

Take note that the original PowerBook G3 and processor upgrade cards are not supported.



continue to allocate that portion of RAM to Photoshop, even after you open subsequent programs. If your RAM is limited, you'll get an error message telling you that there is not enough memory available to open the program. You'll need to free up a memory by closing a program to fix this problem, making multitasking difficult to impossible depending on the programs' needs. Essentially, your Mac is divvying up RAM as pieces of a pie on a first-come, first-served basis.

To fix this problem, Mac OS X uses a concept known as advanced virtual memory. Advanced virtual memory acts like a traffic officer, allowing a certain amount of traffic to flow to specific avenues. For instance, if you have Word, Photoshop, and Netscape open at the same time, Mac OS X will ensure that the programs which need RAM immediately will get it. Memory allocated to programs that are open, but not in use, will be redirected to the programs



**IE 5** is fully compatible with Mac OS X, but you'll find there are still some Web pages it has trouble reading.

that are in use. What is more, if there is a greater amount of RAM needed than your Mac has to allocate, advanced virtual memory will take some of your hard drive and allocate that to needy programs, in effect substituting it as RAM. The upshot of all this technology is that it will be very difficult to run out of RAM in the future.

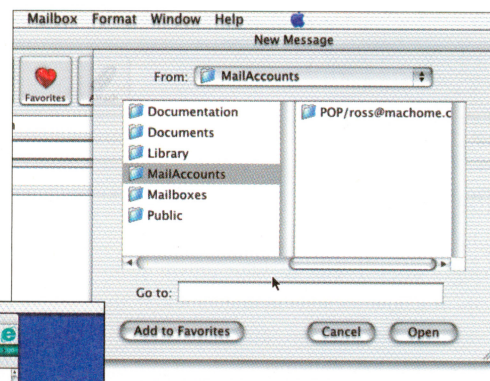
RAM shortages in Mac OS 9 can often lead to a system crash.

Inevitably, this forces you to restart your computer, losing all the data you had entered prior to

your last save. We all know how frustrating this can be. Another part of the remarkable Darwin core-OS is called protected memory. With Mac OS X the days of system crashes are over. If a program does crash, only that program is affected, all other programs remain unaffected. This kind of programming is long overdue, and a welcome change.

## Mail

You can immediately set-up your mail preferences and begin sending mail in Apple's new mail program. Although I didn't find any import function for accessing my other Email programs'



**E-mail** friends and family minutes after installing Mac OS X with Apple's new mail program.

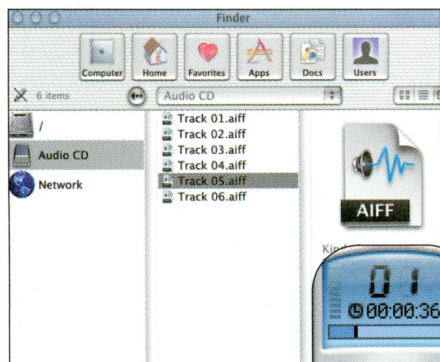
address books, there is a useful address book that you can use in the meantime. I had no difficulty composing mail with attachments and mailing it to others, and you shouldn't either.

## Internet Explorer 5

A useful companion to the Mail program is Internet Explorer 5, by Microsoft. They have been busy developing this program specifically for Mac OS X Public Beta. It looks similar to the IE 5 you might be using, but it includes all the cool Aqua features that are present throughout Mac OS X.

There are particular Websites that you'll find are Mac OS X friendly — those that use QuickTime, Flash, iTools, and Shockwave. Websites that use Java 2 applets will appear a bit jumbled because the Public Beta does not include support for Java applications embedded





in Web pages. Support for Java 2 will be added in the final release.

## Media Player

Whenever you insert a music CD into your Mac running Mac OS X Public Beta, you'll get an icon that appears on your desktop which looks like a stack of three portable hard drives. By clicking on that, your Finder opens up to reveal the music tracks on the CD. Click on a track and a cool looking music player is presented to you. You can play music tracks, adjust the volume, skip forward or backwards, and pause. It even lets you create and save a selection of tracks.

## Security

If you have ever worried that someone might get into your hard drive, move, change, erase files, or simply try to clean things up for you, you can now rest easy. Mac OS X asks you to provide the name and a password for you, the administrator. The administrator then adds other users to the computer. Each time you

startup Mac OS X, you'll provide a name and password. Only the administrator can change settings and add or delete files from the hard drive.

## Final Thoughts

In the end, we will want to ask ourselves if Apple has indeed managed to make the Macintosh a more human-oriented computer with Mac OS X. Arguably, they are trying. You will notice that this OS is slower than your present Mac when opening programs like Classic, Mail, and others. But don't despair, they work pretty well and provide you a great opportunity to associate yourself with this new OS. If you really aren't jumping off your seat about it though, you should probably just wait a few months and buy the final version. *MacHome* will be providing you with updates and news in the months to come — so stay tuned! **MHJ**

## What do you think about Mac OS X?

In the months to come, *MacHome* will be providing you tips and updates on the latest developments, software, and compatibility issues as they pertain to Mac OS X. So, stay in touch with us about Mac OS X and let us know what you think. We'll try and answer your questions and interests as this Public Beta test evolves.

**osx@machome.com**

## Mac OS X Related Websites

The links for these two lists are as follows:

**Mac OS X Classic Products** - lists over 90 products

[http://guide.apple.com/action.lasso?database=MacOSGuide&layout=cgi\\_search&response=ussearch/list\\_classic.html&maxrecords=10&noresulterror=uscategories/noresultscat.html&classic=Y&search](http://guide.apple.com/action.lasso?database=MacOSGuide&layout=cgi_search&response=ussearch/list_classic.html&maxrecords=10&noresulterror=uscategories/noresultscat.html&classic=Y&search)

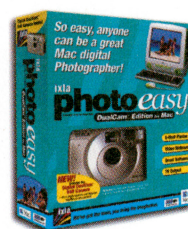
**Mac OS X Optimized list** contains information on 70 products written to take advantage of Mac OS X

[http://guide.apple.com/action.lasso?database=MacOSGuide&layout=cgi\\_search&response=ussearch/list\\_osx.html&maxrecords=10&noresulterror=uscategories/noresultscat.html&osx\\_optimized=Y&search](http://guide.apple.com/action.lasso?database=MacOSGuide&layout=cgi_search&response=ussearch/list_osx.html&maxrecords=10&noresulterror=uscategories/noresultscat.html&osx_optimized=Y&search)

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**MacHome's**  
**Holiday**  
**Gift**  
**Guide**

By MacHome Staff

**Oodles of Gifts for the  
Maccentric in Your Life**

**Uh-Oh. Here we go again! The holidays have descended and we know you're wondering what to get that pesky Macophile in your life. Well, wonder no more. We've pulled together our largest gift guide EVER. You got gamers, kids, travelers? No problem! Here's a cornucopia of great gifts for all on your list.**



# For the **Artiste**



## **PowerShot S100 Digital Elph**

Here's a digital camera small enough to fit in the palm of your hand, flat enough to to slip in your pocket, and yet gives all the image clarity of a two-

megapixel camera. \$599

Canon, 800-652-2666, [www.canon.com](http://www.canon.com)

[www.powershot.com](http://www.powershot.com)

## **EPSON Perfection 1200U**

Even though it's designed for small office, business, and education types, don't shy away from this color scanner if you're an entry-level graphic artist or photographer. The Perfection 1200U weighs in with an optical resolution of 1200 dpi. \$199

Epson America, 800-463-7766

[www.epson.com](http://www.epson.com)



## **Canon CanoScan N656U**

This super-light, slim 42-bit color USB scanner is so portable,

your sweetie can carry it in a back-

pack. And, it's got a special hinged top for hard cover books. \$129, Canon, 800-652 2666

[www.usa.canon.com](http://www.usa.canon.com)

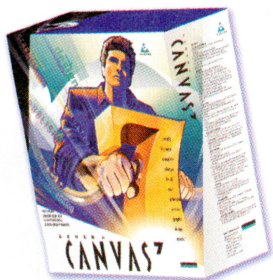


## **Deneba Canvas 7 SE**

If your pal is a graphic or Web designer, consider Canvas 7 Standard Edition as a personal graphics companion. This program has the tools for illustration, photo editing, Web graphics, typesetting, and more, all rolled into one application. \$85

Deneba Software, 800-733-6322

[www.deneba.com](http://www.deneba.com)

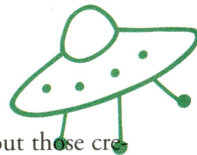


## **Fonts**

One thing to remember about those creative types — they have an insatiable appetite for fonts. P22 offers a wide variety of creative, exotic fonts for all kinds of graphic styles. \$10 and up.

P22 Type Foundry, 716-885-4490

[www.p22.com](http://www.p22.com)



## **Clip Art**

Clip art provides rich fodder for the creative repertoire. Nova Development features Art Explosion 750,000, with 750,000 images on five DVD-ROMs. \$189, Nova Development, 818-591-9600

[www.novadevelopment.com](http://www.novadevelopment.com)

## **image grabber 2.0**

If your artist friend is looking for an easy way to find and purchase photographs, illustrations, and cartoons from the Internet, have a look at image grabber 2. It's great for designers, photo researchers, or anyone who's interested in finding the perfect image in seconds! \$50

Random Eye Technologies, 800-726-4126

[www.randomeye.com](http://www.randomeye.com)

## **EPSON PhotoPC650**

Here's an easy-to-use, one-megapixel digital camera that's ideal for entry-level shooters. The Epson PhotoPC650 features 1,152 x 864

image resolution

to give your

Mac friend

great 5"x7"

prints and

built-in USB

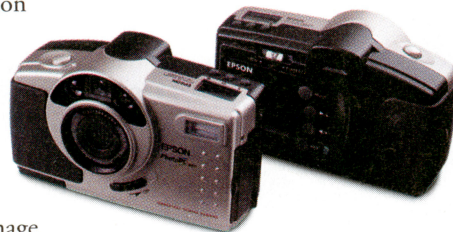
for fast and

convenient image

download. \$299

Epson America, Inc., 800-463-7766

[www.epson.com](http://www.epson.com)





# For the Traveler



## AlphaSmart 3000

Okay. This is THE perfect portable laptop word processor! It weighs only two pounds. It lasts up to 500 hours on three AA batteries. And it stores 100 pages of text. And hey, it's compatible with ALL word-processing software! So how cool is this for \$199?

SmartInput

800-366-8323

[www.smartinput.com](http://www.smartinput.com)

## Documents To Go

Say your Mac person needs to carry Word and Excel files on their Palm. But how? With Documents To Go by DataViz. They can use this program to quickly view sales forecast, contracts, and other files anytime. \$40

DataViz, Inc., 800-733-0030

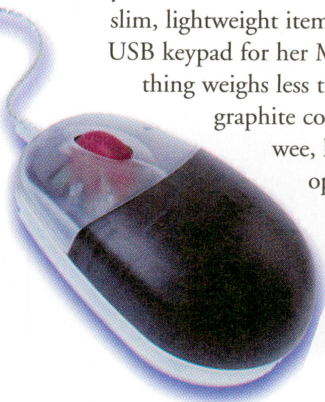
[www.dataviz.com](http://www.dataviz.com)

## USB Mini Keypad & Mini Optical Mouse

So your loved one has a hankering for an extremely slim, lightweight item. You can get her a numeric USB keypad for her Macintosh or Powerbook. This thing weighs less than 2 oz. and comes in a cool graphite color for \$40. Then there's the wee, little three-button scrolling optical mouse that works with any USB Macintosh. No need to exert any pressure to use it, plus, it works on almost any surface. \$40

Adesso, 310-645-3746

[www.adessoinc.com](http://www.adessoinc.com)

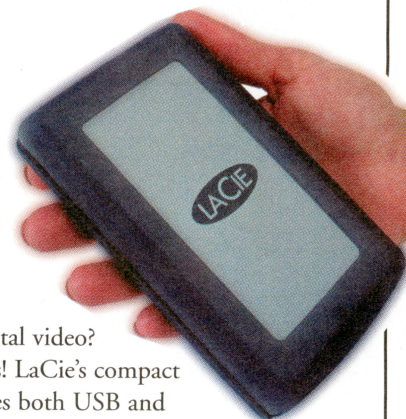


## Kick-off!

Oh those crashes! You hate seeing your favorite Macophile go through the agony. But there's help on the way in the form of automatic crash detection and recovery. Kick-off! actually monitors the Mac system and automatically restarts it when it crashes. \$179

Sophisticated Circuits, 800-769-3773

[www.sophisticated.com](http://www.sophisticated.com)



## LaCie 20GB PocketDrive

Who doesn't need an extra 20GB to hold all their digital video?

You know your friend does! LaCie's compact 20GB PocketDrive provides both USB and FireWire interfaces. \$599

LaCie, 503-844-4502

[www.lacie.com](http://www.lacie.com)



## Palm Portable Keyboard

Your poor friend gets cranky having to write on

the Palm with that stylus. This palm-sized keyboard quickly unfolds into a fully functional keyboard for the Palm organizer. \$99

Palm, 800-881-7256

[www.palm.com](http://www.palm.com)



## VST FireWire Hard Drives

How would she like to pack a few gigabytes of data neatly away in a slick little FireWire drive the size of a wallet? Of course she would. Look no further than VST's fine collection of slim, sleek drives. Prices start at \$199.

VST, 978-635-8200

[www.vsttech.com](http://www.vsttech.com)



# Yeah, we're one of those obnoxious over-achieving families.



**Turbo Mouse:** Runs successful Internet start-up.



**Orbit:** Handsome champion surfer.



**Mouse-in-a-Box:** Attending Yale this Fall.

You know the kind. Good at everything. Got it all. Loathed by everyone on the block. But our family's a little different — people can feel good about our success. Because for every generation of Mac® computers — from the venerable Mac Classic to the brand new Power Mac G4 Cube, we've created an equally dynamic generation of input devices people love. Our latest family is the first and only to offer USB and ADB connectivity. Whether you choose our entry level Mouse-in-a-Box®, the Orbit® trackball, or the more advanced Turbo Mouse®, you'll find yourself working smarter and more comfortably than ever. Who knows? Maybe you'll end up inspiring a little envy, too. Find out more about our input devices at [www.macfamily.kensington.com](http://www.macfamily.kensington.com).

**KENSINGTON®**  
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# For the New iMac Owner



## Personal Organizer

Some call it the Swiss Army Knife of productivity software. There's a calendar, address book, word processor, project manager, memo taker, telephone dialer, and alarm clock all rolled into one easy-to-use package.

And, it syncs right up to your Palm. \$50

Chronos L.C., 435-615-7335

[www.chronosnet.com](http://www.chronosnet.com)

## Back-UPS Pro USB

Don't let a friend get caught!

In a power outage, that is!

APC's translucent Back-UPS Pro USB is designed to prevent data loss and downtime by giving her power conditioning and battery backup power during power outages. \$180

American Power Conversion

800-877-4080

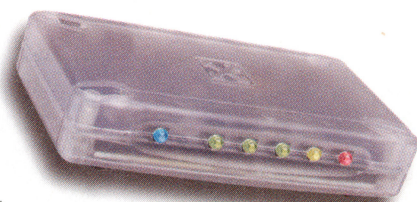
[www.apcc.com](http://www.apcc.com)



## XLR8 IceView Hub

If he needs a USB hub, here's a very nice, four-port model for all manners of USB peripherals. And it comes in a cool translucent case. Its Loadmeter lets him monitor peak USB usage to maximize equipment performance. \$49

XLR8, 770-564-5682, [www.xlr8.com](http://www.xlr8.com)



## Did You Know?

Find information about practically any Mac product on the planet from Apple's Macintosh Product Guide. Check out features such as Mastering Your Mac, Tips and Tricks, Sherlock Plug-ins, Special Offers, and more! It's all happening at <http://guide.apple.com/usindex.html>

# For the New iBook Owner

## iHubJr

Every iBook maven is going to need a hub sometime. With Macally's USB iHubJr, there's a three-port USB mini hub specifically designed for the iBook and all USB Macs.

This trusty iHubJr comes with an easily changeable three-color "jacket" giving a choice of Blueberry, Tangerine, or Graphite colors. \$25

Macally, 800-644-1132

[www.macally.com](http://www.macally.com)



## MacCase

Folks need to be stylish these days, and none more than iBook owners. Nothing says fashion better than MacCase, the ultimate iBook carryall. It comes in all the new iBook colors, of course! \$50

JAM, 877-919-4526, [www.jambags.com](http://www.jambags.com)



## iOptiJr. Wee Optical Mouse

As a companion to the iHubJr, Macally's iOptiJr. is one of the smallest optical mice around, designed for the iBook. But, despite its small size, its mighty scroll button gives efficient Internet navigation. And, like its hub brother, iOptiJr. comes with three color jackets to match the iBook. \$49

Macally, 800-644-1132, [www.macally.com](http://www.macally.com)





# Radically Overhaul Your Gaming and Music Experience!



## Dramatic Enhancement for Your Speakers and Headphones

- Great for games, music and streaming audio and video
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- Bass becomes dramatically enhanced and more robust
- Turn iMacs, Macs and PCs into impressive sound systems (for use with external speakers or headphones)



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at [www.wowthing.com](http://www.wowthing.com), or call  
1-800-656-5426

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TruBass  
by SRS

SRS  
[www.srslabs.com](http://www.srslabs.com)



# For the Gamer

## AirStick

Practicing your flight sims? Macally USB AirStick is a mid-air joystick with an advanced, motion-tracking tilt sensor. It's 100% programmable for both InputSprocket and non-InputSprocket games (we'll let the kids explain that one!). AirStick's 2-in-1 game controller and joystick design lets your gamer pal control game activities in mid-air for many hours of fun. \$69  
Macally, 800-644-1132  
[www.macally.com](http://www.macally.com)



## Majesty

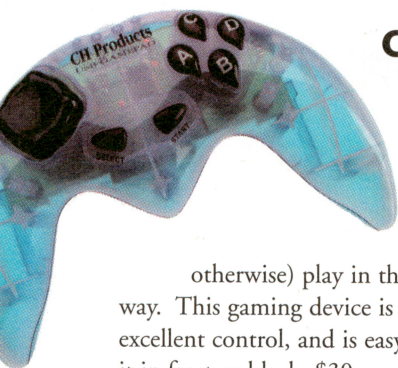
You are King. You Rule. Watch your kingdom come alive as its growing infrastructure begins to attract new inhabitants, both good and evil. Players use their economic might to hire heroes from among 16 different classes and then play their brains out. Yeah! \$45  
MacPlay  
214-855-5955  
[www.macplay.com](http://www.macplay.com)



## Gamepad USB

This pro-style, 10-button function gamepad lets your kids (grownup and

otherwise) play in their own unique way. This gaming device is comfortable, gives excellent control, and is easy to set up. Get it in frost or black. \$30  
CH Products, 760-598-2518  
[www.chproducts.com](http://www.chproducts.com)



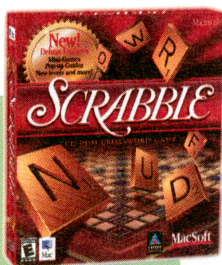
## Sin

Someone's not kidding around here. This first-person shooter game has tons of weapons, including a sniper rifle with a scope. Elexis Sinclair is breaking the laws of nature in her quest for domination. Do you dare stand in her way? \$25  
MacPlay, 214-855-5955  
[www.macplay.com](http://www.macplay.com)



## Scrabble

Fans of the beloved board game will adore Scrabble in CD-ROM format. At the very least, it's likely to turn players into keener wordsmiths, and will definitely boost their Scrabble-playing skills. What more can you ask? \$30  
MacSoft, 800-229-2714  
[www.wizardworks.com/macsoft](http://www.wizardworks.com/macsoft)



## Slots

If your Mac person is the gambling kind, they can play 50 of the most popular slots from IGT, the famed designer of slot machines. *Slots* gives authentic replications playable on your Mac include Sizzling 7's, Double Diamond, WildCherry, and Ten Times Pay, and many more. Knock yourself out! \$25  
Masque Publishing, 303-290-9853  
[www.masque.com](http://www.masque.com)

## Diablo II

We're told that this is a highly addictive medieval role playing game, and we believe it. In this dark and dangerous world, there are five new character classes including barbarians and necromancers, each playing a distinct adventure. \$50  
Blizzard Entertainment, 800-953-7669,  
[www.blizzard.com](http://www.blizzard.com)







## Rio 500 MP3 Player

Whether your favorite Mac person wants their MP3 player in Metallic Grey, translucent purple, or teal, this portable digital audio player with 64MB of memory stores hours of music and spoken words. Prices range from \$229 to \$259.

Diamond Multimedia, 541-967-2450, [www.rioport.com](http://www.rioport.com),



## Monsoon Speakers

These speakers will serve your Mac person well if they're looking to jolt their multimedia experience. They promise full, detailed sound for an

exciting game-playing experience, or a wonderful music-listening excursion. \$169  
Sonigistix, 877-722-8346, [www.grooveride.com](http://www.grooveride.com)

## Guitar Method 1.2

This package lets you learn the guitar by watching and listening. With an animated Fretboard Tool and an assortment of tunes, they'll be strumming holiday songs in no time. \$60  
eMedia, 888-363-3424  
[www.emedia.org](http://www.emedia.org)

## MusicMatch Jukebox

Your Macophile needs a way to record, download, play, and organize their extensive MP3 and CD collection.

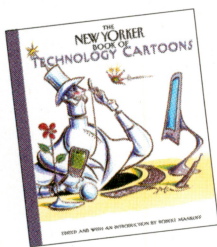
MusicMatch Jukebox (either a free version or a souped up Plus version for \$20) lets them do all that. Play MP3s and CDs!

Watch them drag and drop tracks to create playlists, view cover art, lyrics, notes and bios while listening to tunes, and more. Up to \$20

MusicMatch, 858-485-4300  
[www.musicmatch.com](http://www.musicmatch.com)



# Book Nook



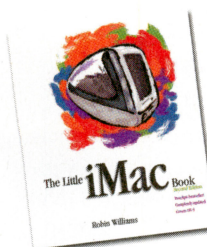
## New Yorker Book of Technology Cartoons

What better way to capture the strides of technology than through humor? They'll get a kick out of this graphical read.

Brimming with computer and Internet

jokes, it satisfies the techno-phobe and -savvy alike. \$25  
Bloomberg Press, 888-417-9597

[www.bloomberg.com/books](http://www.bloomberg.com/books)



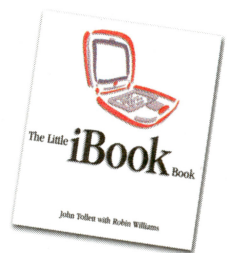
## The Little iMac Book

Your favorite new iMac owner can take this book, sit down in front of the computer, and learn all there is to know about this awesome machine. \$18  
Peachpit Press, 800-283-9444,  
[www.peachpit.com](http://www.peachpit.com)

## The Little iBook Book

If your kid has an iBook, or even if you've got one yourself, you'd be amazed at how much there is to learn about all the ins and outs of using it. \$19

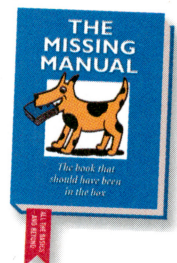
Peachpit Press, 800-283-9444,  
[www.peachpit.com](http://www.peachpit.com)



## Mac OS 9: The Missing Manual

OS X may be on the way, but if your Mac lover needs a handle on the Mac's latest system software, this little dandy might be it. It's written with both the novice and power user in mind. Author David Pogue includes explanations of shortcuts, surprises, design touches, and more. \$20

O'Reilly and Pogue Press, 800-998-9938, [www.oreilly.com](http://www.oreilly.com)





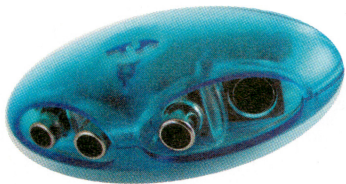
# For the Video Buff

## CapSureUSB

Your favorite Macophile can use this small device to capture full-motion analog audio and video from VCRs, video cameras, professional cameras, or stereo receivers, and bring it into their USB Mac. They get 640 x 480 video playthrough with full audio as well as frame grabbing and video capture. \$120

PAR Technologies, 480-922-0044

[www.irez.com](http://www.irez.com)



## Brother MFC-7400c

She needs to save space in a small home office and doesn't have the room for all that dang hardware. Here's a scanner/printer/fax/copier right out of the box. Just connect it to the Mac and enjoy fast color printing, and high-resolution scanning. This all-in-one also has CompactFlash and SmartMedia drives that let her print digital photos directly from the cards without having to boot her computer. Print thumbnails, individual shots, or groups of images. \$400

Brother, 800-284-4329, [www.brother.com](http://www.brother.com)



## VideoLink Pro

If your friend is looking for face-to-face video conferencing for either business or pleasure, and is connecting over the Internet or a LAN linking Mac-to-Mac or Mac-to-Windows participants, VideoLink Pro may be just the ticket. \$60

Smith Micro Software, 800-700-1299

[www.smithmicro.com](http://www.smithmicro.com)

# For the Very Geeky

## RealBasic

He wants to try his hand at programming. But he needs it to be, well, pretty easy. Check out RealBasic. This development program may be easy enough for beginners but it's also powerful enough for real-live developers. \$100

REAL Software, 512-263-1233

[www.realsoftware.com](http://www.realsoftware.com)

## iDo Script Scheduler

Say your Mac whizbrain has created some AppleScripts that do neat stuff — running the backup, downloading email, updating stock quotes you name it. But she doesn't want to launch each script to accomplish it all. iDo Script Scheduler lets her put those scripts to work, wherever and whenever. \$25

Sophisticated Circuits, 800-769-3773

[www.sophisticated.com](http://www.sophisticated.com)

## StuffIt InstallerMaker 6.5.2

Installers are the front line between you and the software. That's why they should be transparent and easy to operate. So if your Mac fiend is creating software, don't let her forget the installer. InstallerMaker helps your favorite developer create complex, professional installers, demoware, and more in short time and with minimal effort. \$250

Aladdin Systems, Inc., 831-761-6200, [www.aladdinsys.com](http://www.aladdinsys.com)

# Holiday Gift Sites



## e-Frames.com

It's family time! Find digital photo printing and framing that is fast, convenient, and inexpensive. Just upload your digital photos, preview them on-screen in any of

100 wood, metal, and specialty frames, and send your framed print anywhere in just 24 hours.

[www.eframes.com](http://www.eframes.com)



## www.wine.com

It can be tough coming off posh and sophisticated sometimes, especially when it comes to wine. Who can keep up with all of the complex offerings, let alone learn to pronounce them? Wine.com provides the best of wine for both

the aficionado and the novice.

[www.wine.com](http://www.wine.com)



## Peet's Holiday Blend with Cherries

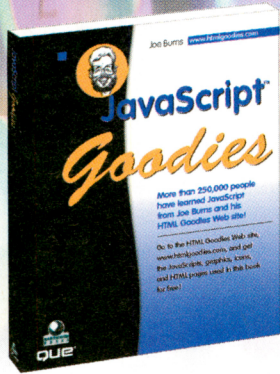
Coffee, tea, biscotti, brewing gear? If it's got to do with hot drinks or related food

and beverages, you're likely to find it at Peet's Coffee & Tea. We particularly like Peet's Holiday Blend with a bag of chocolate covered cherries — an excellent stocking stuffer!

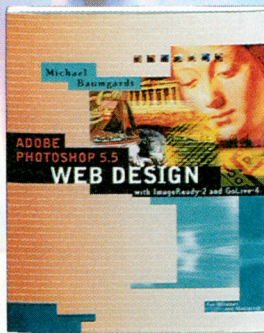
[www.peets.com](http://www.peets.com)



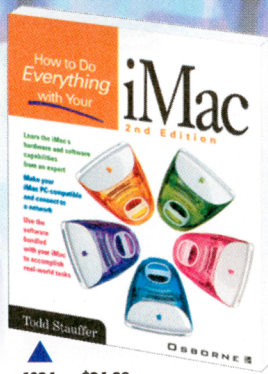
# Discover the True Power of your Mac!



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JavaScript™ Goodies  
Joe Burns



1560 \$40.00  
Adobe Photoshop 5.5 Web Design  
with Image Ready 2 and GoLive 4  
Michael Baumgardt



1024 \$24.99  
How to Do Everything with  
Your iMac, 2/e  
Todd Stauffer

TAKE **3** BOOKS FOR  
**\$19.99**  
EACH  
with membership



0992 \$16.99  
Quicken 2000 for Macintosh:  
Visual Quickstart Guide  
Tom Negrino



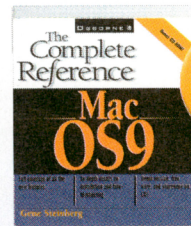
1412 \$28.99  
Graphic Designer's Ultimate  
Resource Directory  
Poppy Evans



0539 \$24.99  
Online Investing with Quicken  
2000: The Official Guide  
Susan Price & Maria Langer

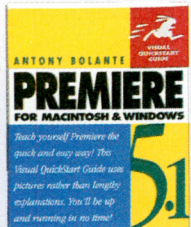


1552 \$19.99  
iMac, iBook, & G3  
Troubleshooting Pocket  
Reference  
Don Rittner

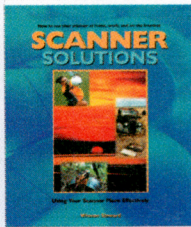


1347 \$39.99  
The Complete Reference:  
Mac OS9  
Gene Steinberg

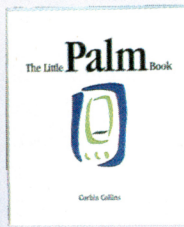
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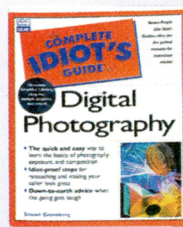
1313 \$19.99  
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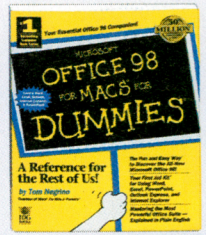
0984 \$17.99  
The Little Palm Book  
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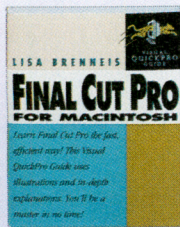
1438 \$24.99  
The Complete Idiot's Guide®  
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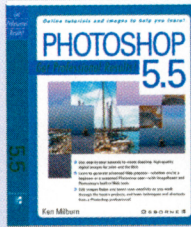
1628 \$39.99  
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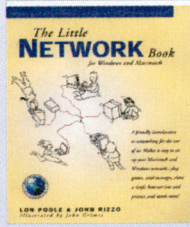
1362 \$19.99  
Microsoft Office 98 for  
Macs For Dummies  
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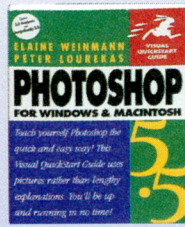
1248 \$24.99  
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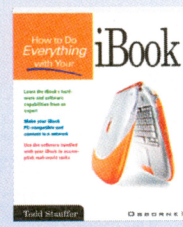
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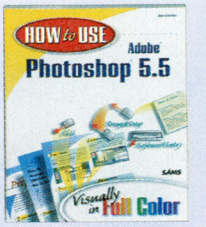
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# Something for Everyone



## NEC MultiSync FP950

Ahh, monitors. They're big-ticket items for that special professional person in your life. Check out the NEC MultiSync FP950, with a 19-inch, flat-glass tube. It's got a maximum resolution of 1920 x 1440, meaning you can cram lots of desktop space into the screen. \$649

NEC-Mitsubishi, 888-632-6487

[www.necmitsubishi.com](http://www.necmitsubishi.com)

## TechTool Pro 3

It's no fun troubleshooting, but your Mac maven can diagnose, prevent, and fix problems with TechTool Pro 3, a utility that can get your sick computer running smoothly with a click of the mouse. Besides preventing crashes and recovering lost files, version 3 now includes virus protection. \$98  
Micromat Inc., 800-829-6227  
[www.micromat.com](http://www.micromat.com)



## Lexmark Z12 Color Jetprinter

If a printer is on your shopping list, this powerful inkjet can produce 1,200 x 1,200 dpi output in black and color on many paper types. It prints up to six

pages per minute in black and three in color, and comes with easy-to-install software. \$50

Lexmark International, 800-539-6275, [www.lexmark.com](http://www.lexmark.com)

# For the Home Office



## OTT-LITE VisionSavers

She likes the great outdoors, but unfortunately she's too busy at her computer. Catch that outdoor feeling with OTT-LITE. This lamp is specially formulated to replicate natural daylight indoors — without the glare — and helps viewers see fine details with clarity, as well

as match colors accurately. Prices range from \$40-\$180

OTT-LITE Technology, 800-842-8848

[www.ott-lite.com](http://www.ott-lite.com)

## Dave 2.5

Say your Mac person needs to share files and printers between Macs and PCs, or all Macs on a network. No problem! DAVE lets you do just that via TCP/IP, the Internet protocol. It's simple to install and easy to use. What more can they ask? \$149

Thursby Software, 817-478-5070

[www.thursby.com](http://www.thursby.com)



## Microsoft Office 2001

Microsoft has created a mighty suite of well-integrated and intuitive productivity programs. Check out the new Entourage address book, calendar, and task list in addition to Word, Excel, and the rest. \$499

Microsoft, 800-426-9400

[www.microsoft.com](http://www.microsoft.com)





## For the Kids

### Mia 2: Romaine's New Hat

Children will love this science learning adventure with Mia the skateboarding mouse. Add-up the gorgeous animation, delightful music, and the scientific discoveries, and you have an "edutainment" title that's surely a gem. \$20  
Kutoka, 514-849-4800, [www.kutoka.com](http://www.kutoka.com)

### M&M's: The Lost Formula

Kids must help Yellow M&M recover torn up M&M formulas in this action-packed mathematics adventure game. As players race through the factory, they'll face churning chocolate, rampaging robots, and math drills to test their smarts. \$20  
Simon & Schuster Interactive  
800-223-2336, [www.simonsays.com](http://www.simonsays.com)



### Daria's Inferno

Daria leads your little lovely on an outlandish adventure to save her hometown. This software features five levels of gameplay with characters from Daria's show, as well as her pithy, sharp-witted commentary. \$20  
Simon & Schuster Interactive  
800-223-2336, [www.simonsays.com](http://www.simonsays.com)

### Humongous Entertainment

This trusted game company has introduced many titles over the past year. They've got CDs for all the tots in your life, including *Freddi Fish's One-Stop Fun Shop* and *Putt-Putt Joins the Circus*, among many others. Youngsters absolutely adore (and learn!) from these fun-loving characters. Prices range from \$20-\$25. So wrap one up!  
Humongous Entertainment, 800-499-8386  
[www.humongous.com](http://www.humongous.com)



## For the Person

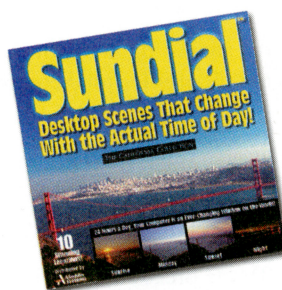
### Kodak Smart Frame

This wooden frame lets you store up to 36 digital images, which can be viewed from your digital camera's CompactFlash Card. Plug it into your phone line for viewing and sharing pictures. Comes with a subscription to Storybox Network. \$349  
Kodak, 800-235-6325, [www.kodak.com](http://www.kodak.com)



### QuickKeys

Your Mac lover wants his hands to fly across the keyboard. Before he thinks a command, it's done. QuickKeys can help by letting him create shortcuts, hotkeys, and toolbars to automate hundreds of tasks. QuickKeys gives him one-touch control of his Mac! \$100  
CE Software, Inc., 800-523-7638, [www.cesoft.com](http://www.cesoft.com)



### Sundial

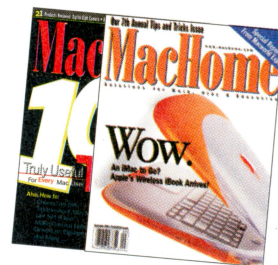
Does your Mac lover just sit there sometimes staring at her desktop? Well, give her something to look at! Sundial is desktop wallpaper that displays a 24-hour, time-lapse scenic photography sequence.

Now she can watch the sunset or even add her own background picture. \$20  
Aladdin Systems, 831-761-6200, [www.aladdinsys.com](http://www.aladdinsys.com)

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# Apple Gear

|                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                          |         |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| <b>iMac</b>                                                   | The base iMac includes all the necessities with a 350MHz processor, and a 7GB hard disk, but no AirPort capability.                                                                      | \$799   |
| <b>iMac DV</b>                                                | This model adds a 400MHz processor, a 10GB hard disk, two FireWire ports, VGA video mirroring, and AirPort capability. With iMovie 2.                                                    | \$999   |
| <b>iMac DV +</b>                                              | Step-up for a 450MHz processor, a 20GB hard disk, and a DVD ROM drive. With iMovie 2.                                                                                                    | \$1,299 |
| <b>iMac DV SE</b>                                             | The Special Edition adds a 500MHz processor and a 30GB hard disk. With iMovie 2.                                                                                                         | \$1,499 |
| <b>Power Macintosh G4 Cube, 450MHz</b>                        | This miraculous eight-inch cube uses the Velocity Engine, which speeds up certain tasks. It includes 64MB of RAM and a 20GB hard disk, though it can't be expanded with PCI cards.       | \$1,799 |
| <b>Power Macintosh G4 Cube, 500MHz</b>                        | In addition to the speed boost, you'll get twice the RAM and a 30GB hard drive in this svelte supercomputer.                                                                             | \$2,299 |
| <b>Power Macintosh G4/400MHz</b>                              | The base G4 tower, which ships with 64MB of RAM and a 20GB hard disk includes the Velocity Engine to greatly speed up certain tasks. It's easily expandable in many ways. DVD ROM drive. | \$1,599 |
| <b>Power Macintosh G4/Dual 450MHz</b>                         | In addition to an extra, faster processor, you'll also get twice the RAM and a 30GB hard disk.                                                                                           | \$2,499 |
| <b>Power Macintosh G4/Dual 500MHz</b>                         | This model doubles the RAM again, to 256MB, and comes with a 40GB hard disk. DVD RAM drive.                                                                                              | \$3,499 |
| <b>Power Macintosh G4/Dual 500MHz w/ Apple Cinema Display</b> | Mix the above, top G4 with the RADEON graphics card and the 22-inch Apple Cinema Display for total computing glory.                                                                      | \$7,598 |
| <b>iBook</b>                                                  | The rugged, student-friendly portable, includes a 366MHz processor, 64MB of RAM, and a 10GB hard drive. Now you're cookin' with FireWire and USB. AirPort ready, with iMovie 2.          | \$1,499 |
| <b>iBook SE</b>                                               | The Special Edition adds a 466MHz processor, 10GB hard drive, and a DVD-ROM drive.                                                                                                       | \$1,799 |
| <b>PowerBook/400MHz</b>                                       | A 400MHz processor, 64MB of RAM, and 10GB drive give you portable power, and the expansion bays let you easily swap components.                                                          | \$2,499 |
| <b>PowerBook/500MHz</b>                                       | In addition to the faster processor, this one also doubles the RAM and the hard disk space.                                                                                              | \$3,499 |
| <b>PowerBook/500MHz</b>                                       | This road warrior's ultimate companion ships with a 30GB hard drive, an extra battery, an extra AC adapter, and more.                                                                    | \$3,997 |
| <b>Studio Display</b>                                         | The eye-catching, translucent monitor packs a 17-inch picture tube.                                                                                                                      | \$499   |
| <b>Studio Display Flat Panel</b>                              | The stunning 15-inch flat panel is a thin, bright display.                                                                                                                               | \$999   |
| <b>Cinema Display</b>                                         | The widescreen, 22-inch flat panel known in certain circles as "The Monitor of the Gods" is the top display on this — or any other — planet.                                             | \$3,999 |
| <b>Pro Mouse</b>                                              | Apple's quicksilver optical mouse is an elegant drop of clear lucite.                                                                                                                    | \$59    |
| <b>Pro Keyboard</b>                                           | This complete, extended keyboard includes full-sized arrow keys, F-Keys, and smooth plastics.                                                                                            | \$59    |
| <b>AirPort Base Station</b>                                   | When used with AirPort Cards, surf the Web and share files without wires while in a 150-foot radius of the Base Station.                                                                 | \$299   |
| <b>AirPort Card</b>                                           | Use one to network wirelessly with a Base Station; nearby Macs can talk without the Station.                                                                                             | \$99    |

Prices and configurations current as of press time. Check [www.store.apple.com](http://www.store.apple.com)



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# The Mac Workshop

By Ross Tibbits

## Make Your Own Holiday Cards



### Get your paper

To make your cards look and feel like the real thing, you'll want to get some heavy paper. Most laser printers will accept up to 24 lb. weight. While you're at the stationery store, pick up some envelopes too.

### Come up with a design

Is there a recent family portrait, a picture of your adorable pet wearing a Santa hat, or a picture that you took on a recent vacation that you'd like to use on the cover of your card? Are you an artist? Maybe you want to draw a picture. Whatever the image, you'll want to scan it and save it as a jpeg. If you don't have a scanner, just stop by your local copy center where they'll show you how to do it.



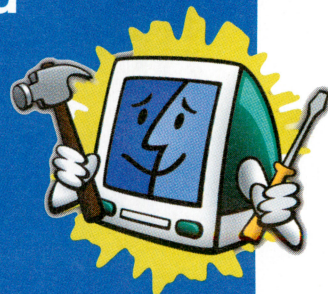
### Format your page

Now that you have all the ingredients, it's time to design a layout. You might want to get the measurements from a standard card you have lying around the house. Then, open Word — or any other page layout program, such as Appleworks — and set the page layout to the correct dimensions in the Page Setup window under the File menu.

Remember you'll want a front and a back for the design. Word also has drawing tools that will let you create borders and shapes. Then insert your greeting message on the inside section of the card.

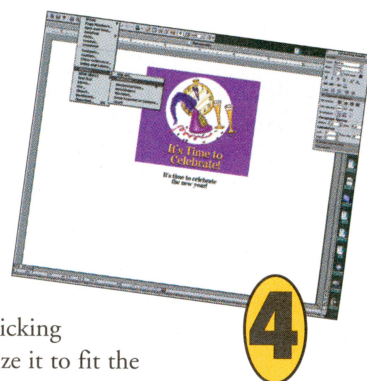
## What You'll Need

- 1 Heavyweight paper
- 2 A photograph or an image
- 3 Envelopes
- 4 A little imagination



### Add your art

Remember that jpeg image you scanned? It's time to insert that onto the front of your card — or wherever you want to put it. In Word, go to Insert in the uppermost toolbar and then select Picture. From there you can choose a specific file from your hard drive. It's that easy! By double-clicking on the image, you can resize it to fit the dimensions of your card.



### Print it!

Do a few test prints — you never quite know what something is going to look like until you print it. If you have a good color printer at home you are all ready to print, otherwise pop back down to the copy shop and have it printed on their color printer.

## Tell us what you think!

Do you have suggestions for future Mac Workshop articles? Write us a quick note and tell us what you would like to see in upcoming issues!

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## Flag Important Messages with Outlook Express

**Expecting an important email message?** Outlook Express can specifically notify you when it arrives. Launch Outlook Express and select Rules from the Tools menu. Click the New button in the top left. A window called Define Mail Rule appears. Give your rule an appropriate name — in this case, perhaps Message Alert. Now move down to the If box. Next, choose a combination of detecting mail by the sender, subject, or text inside the message. Let's say we're anticipating a message from Ryan telling us that Jesse is back in town. The first thing we must do is select If All Criteria Are Met from the Execute Actions pop-up menu at the right. Then choose From from the left-

most pop-up menu. A new pop-up menu appears at the right. Select Is from that menu, and type Ryan's email address in the adjacent box. To look for specific words in the message body, we'll click the green plus symbol to add another criterion. A new set of pop-

up menus appears. Select Message Body from the leftmost pop-up, and Contains from the second. Next, enter a specific word you're seeking. For our example, we'll type the name Jesse.

Now we're ready to move to the Then box. Select Play Sound from the pop-up menu. From the new pop-up menu, pick a unique sound to alert you that the message has arrived, and click OK.

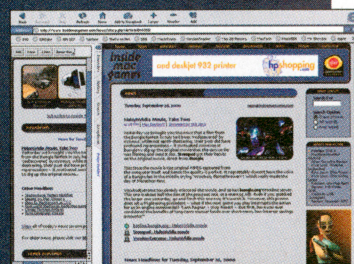
Finally, initiate a schedule to regularly collect email. Select Schedule from the Tools menu. Near the top of the next window you'll see the words Send & Receive All in bold. The option should be checked off already; if not, simply click the box to enable the schedule. Now double-click on the bolded words. A new window called Define Schedule appears. Move to the When box, and select Repeating Schedule from the pop-up menu. A box appears at the right, allowing you to specify the interval. Click OK to close the window.

Your schedule and mail rule are now ready to roll. Continue with your work, and whenever the urgent message arrives, you'll hear a distinct alert sound.

## Explorer's Page Holder

**Click link. View picture.** Press back button. Click link. View picture. Press back button. Sound familiar?

The Internet is structured hierarchically, and when you click one link, you're automatically taken to that



page, flushing the previous page from view. It's a system that works well—unless, of course, you want to browse a list of links for a picture gallery or a set of articles. Thankfully, Internet Explorer 5 can help. Its clever Page Holder feature allows you to take a page containing a list of links and keep it nestled in a drawer at the left for quick access. Visit a page containing a set of links you want to browse. Now click the Page Holder tab at the left. A drawer slides open, revealing several buttons at the top. Click the Add button to place a copy of the current page in the Page Holder drawer. Now you can click any link on that page, and it will be loaded in the main window! You can resize the drawer by placing the dragging on the thin gray bar on the left of the tabs. You can also choose to view the page just as links, by clicking the "Links" button at the top of the drawer.

share your tips...

Got some tips you'd like to share with your fellow MacHome readers? Please send them to us at: **chris@machome.com**

All mail is assumed intended for publication, and we reserve the right to edit tips for brevity and clarity. When sending your tips, please make sure to include your full name.

## Did you know...

There are more than **18,000 products** for **your Macintosh?** Find them all at Apple's Macintosh Products Guide Website:

**<http://guide.apple.com/usindex.html>**

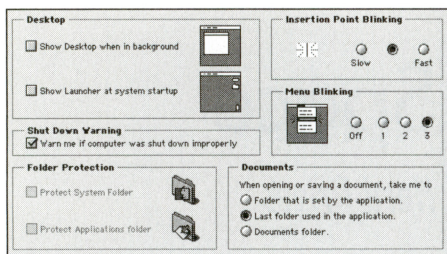


## Banish the Desktop

**Do you often leave** a spattering of windows open in the Finder? And,

moreover, do you find it confusing or distracting to see all these open windows when you're working in another application, like Microsoft Word?

Apple has included an option in the Mac OS's General Controls to hide the desktop when you're using applications. Open the General Controls control panel. In the top left, you'll see an option called Show Desktop When in Background. Simply uncheck this item and close the window to banish the desktop. There is one small caveat, though—you can no longer click on the background image to get back to the Finder. Instead, you must select Finder from the Applications menu or press Command-Tab to cycle through your open applications.



## Mac OS Update Watch

### FireWire 2.5

This revision to Apple's FireWire software addresses several issues found with version 2.4. The software now supports more than ten simultaneous connected devices, and a bug has been fixed that caused some devices to work improperly after the computer had been shut down. Anyone who uses FireWire devices with their Macintoshes should install this update. The software requires Mac OS 9 and can be found at <http://asu.info.apple.com/swupdates.nsf/artnum/n11838>

### GameSprockets 1.7.5

This update to Apple's computer gaming software rolls in enhancements for higher quality three-dimensional sound filtering, better support for multiple monitors, improved graphics performance and compatibility for wheel mice. The update requires Mac OS 8.1 or better and can be found at <http://asu.info.apple.com/swupdates.nsf/artnum/n11564>.

### iMovie 2.0.1

Apple has already released a software update for the recently-announced iMovie 2. The update improves stability, enhances performances and rolls in support for the iMovie Plug-in Pack 2. The update is intended for the version of iMovie 2 that shipped with the most recently announced iMacs (it will not update iMovie 1.0). The software can be found at <http://asu.info.apple.com/swupdates.nsf/artnum/n11789>.

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# Free Hard Disk Space

*The Latest Online Trend — Web-based Hard Drives*

**It seems inevitable these days** — we are going to need more hard drive space. Programs are getting larger and so are their corresponding files. If your computer's hard drive isn't seriously over-taxed now, it will be soon.

What if you could get up to 50 MB of hard drive space for free? That's right — free. This month *MacHome* discusses online storage, so that you might find a practical solution to your storage needs.

The Internet has benefited small business owners by providing reduced operating costs, increased flexibility, and saved time. Many businesses have embraced the Internet for these very reasons. Online storage incorporates all three of these benefits. These services let you access large centralized hard drives from anywhere in the world, provided that you have an Internet connection. These services benefit

**By Ross Tibbits**

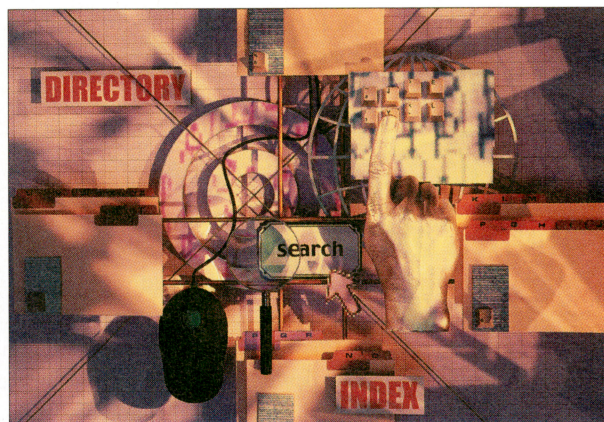
small businesses and individuals alike who need disk space, yet don't want to

incur the expense of buying a new hard drive. Online storage has the added benefit of allowing you to share files with anyone. Accessing files from two different parts of the country — or the world — is remarkably simple.

## How Does it Work?

If you are comfortable logging onto the Internet, you'll have no trouble finding your way around online storage sites. Simply type in the URL address and go to the appropriate homepage to register your name and a password. You don't need to provide any credit card information — unless you opt to subscribe to larger storage plans — but I'll get to that in a moment. Once you've registered a name and a password, simply enter them into the appropriate spaces to access your hard drive. Each service connects you to their centralized storage facility where banks of hard drives securely store your information.

There are two different methods to access your online hard drive — either you'll use your browser to interface with it, or a hard drive icon will appear directly on your



desktop after you log on. The Web-based interface is easy to use — a list of the folders in your hard drive will appear on your open browser page.

One of the benefits that the providers of this service recognize, is that when people begin sharing files, they'll see how easy the service is to use. They will in turn try it out and ideally encourage others to do so as well. It's called viral marketing. And, by combining advertising with their sites, they can afford to provide free services. But that is the price you'll pay with some services.

Desktop-based hard drives create a hard drive icon on your desktop, just as if you had a physical hard drive attached to your Mac. This is great because it acts just like the real thing — click twice on it and it opens up to reveal your files and folders. Better yet, there's little opportunity to distract you with advertisements.

## Where Did It Go?

Unlike a physical hard drive that sits on your desk gathering



dust and making a good place to set your coffee mug (just kidding), online storage is ethereal. But, what if you don't need to access the files stored in cyberspace for months at a time? Will they disappear? Will you ever see them again? Each online storage service ensures that you are not left in the dark when your account shows signs of inactivity. Typically, there will be a notification sent to you via e-mail informing you that you have not accessed your hard drive lately — usually after 30 days. This is used as both a pleasant reminder and a request that you free-up your space. This notice will be followed by at least one more so that you are well aware of the status of your hard drive.

## i-Drive

i-Drive is a browser-based online storage system — you access your files through their Website. They provide you with 50 MB of free space and that is your limit — if you need more, you'll have to create a new username.

i-Drive has developed relationships with a number of universities nationwide in an effort to fulfill the needs of both students and educators. The idea is two allow professors to have a central

only need them to put a file on the hard drive, select the limited access in which individuals can only add files. Or, allow someone to select specific files from a folder and download them. Indeed this is a very useful tool for professionals, and professors and students alike because of its ease of use and flexibility. Students will also like it because it lets them compile MP3 lists and play them from within the virtual hard drive — pretty cool.

You can clip Web pages directly to the i-Drive as well with their Filo software that works with your browser. That way you never have to worry about a page no longer existing — as they have been known to do in these rough-and-tumble days of the Internet — which is very useful for professionals and students alike. There is no limit to the number of pages you can clip.

i-Drive's security policy states that "All information sent between the Web browser and i-Drive.com's servers, including files, is encrypted using 128-bit SSL — the industry standard in protecting everything from online banking to online shopping." Although it is hard to quantify this security feature, it basically ensures that there is no chance that anyone will be able to read the information as it passes from your computer to i-Drive's facility.

One of the real disappointments with this service is that because nobody is paying for the service, i-Drive is beholden to advertising for revenue.

And, you guessed it, that means that you have to patiently watch as advertisements flash on the side of the page. Also, i-Drive may appear geared too much toward students and anyone else interested in copying MP3 tracks off the Internet, but unable to afford the space to store them.

## iDisk

You have probably heard about Apple's iTools, a collection of Internet tools specifically developed by Apple for Mac users. They are available to anyone with

a Mac running OS 9. One of these tools is iDisk, Apple's online storage solution. iDisk offers you 20MB of free storage space. Extra storage is available in amounts of 50, 100, 200, or 400 MB at the cost of \$1 per MB annually for a maximum of 420 MB per account.

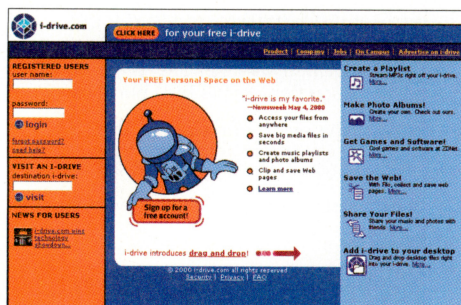
Of all online storage services, this is the most Mac-friendly, and we'd expect nothing less from Apple. When you sign-on to iDisk its icon appears on your desktop. It's labeled with your user name

## Did You Know?

The **original Macintosh 128K** didn't have a hard drive. It only had 128K of RAM and a 400K floppy drive for your program applications. It wasn't until the release of the Mac SE that Apple included a standard 20MB hard drive.

and you treat it just like you would a normal hard drive. The only difference is that there are five pre-named folders within it: Documents, Movies, Pictures, Sites, and Public.

Like other drives, iDisk allows you to share files with either a Mac or PC. The Documents folder is only accessible by



location in which to read and grade assignments submitted by their students. Because i-Drive allows a variety of access privileges, this is easier than it might seem. Think of the opportunities that this might present to you and your professional clients — have them upload files directly to an project folder.

There are three levels of access available to your clients, family, or friends. For complete access, you can allow an individual to view, add, and delete files. If you



you, the iDisk owner. When you want to share documents, simply place them in the Public folder. This allows others to copy the files onto their hard drive, but they cannot add, delete, or modify your files. By giving access to this folder to associates, business contacts and others, you can have an ever changing list



of files available to anyone with an Internet connection and a computer.

The Movies and Pictures folders are designed to store like-named files, and share over the Web via your Website. Lastly, the Sites folder lets you store Websites you've created and to post them to the Web as easily as copying them into this folder.

Imagine creating professional Websites for different clients or projects that you are working on. Update them regularly and provide information to a large group of people — the only ones with the associated URL address, and simplify your life — and theirs.

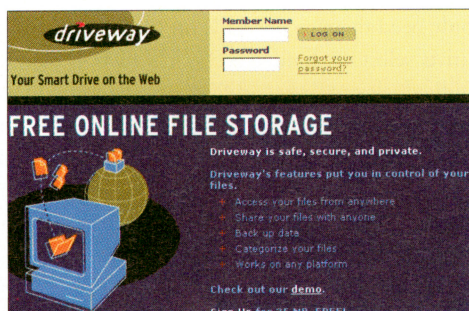
This service gets high marks for ease of use and the look and feel — very Mac. Plus, there are no advertisements.

## Driveway

The founders of Driveway have a long history of developing products for the Mac, so it goes without saying that they are Mac-friendly. There's even a Mac technician on staff to get at the root of any new issues that develop, and to work on upcoming software features specifically for the Mac.

Driveway offers you 25 MB of free disk space — which you access through your browser. They are developing a desktop hard drive that should be available for Mac users soon, allowing you to drag and drop files at will. If you need more space, subscriptions in increments of 100 MB are available for \$107 annually, to a maximum of 525 MB.

Once you have uploaded files onto the hard drive, you can simply select files and folders by clicking on a checkbox to the side of the icon and then



choose to do a variety of tasks. For instance, you can categorize, rename, move, or delete files at will.

To share files over the Internet, simply click on Sharing which appears on the upper toolbar of your Driveway page. You then create a Guest List with the email accounts of individuals you want to give access to. By sending an invitation with a message to all guests, you can identify exactly what the purpose of the sharing is.

Driveway gives you the option of allowing complete file to individuals, or you can create a password for file sharing to ensure certain information is kept confidential.

As with i-Drive, Driveway's business model requires the company to advertise, so you must be agreeable to all the ad clutter which appears on your browser page when accessing files.

## The Next Step

Now that you have a better idea of how these services operate and the level of service they provide, try them out. Remember, they're free. If you are intrepid, you'll find there are other services out there; it's just a matter of looking. Hopefully you'll find that they are a useful addition to your professional arsenal as you search for storage solutions. **MHJ**

## Storing Paper Documents — Online!

**Imagetag** has a new service available called KwikTag. This service allows you to store your paper documents online. That's right, paper. How does this work? Well, once you have an account set up, you are given what they call Post-it



eFlags, developed in conjunction with 3M, the makers of Post-it notes. Each eFlag has a number and a barcode on it. Enter this number into your account page on KwikTag's Website, where you give it a name and a category. Now fax the document to the 800 number with the eFlag affixed to it. They in turn scan it, store it, and post it to your account. You can then view it, or save it as a pdf file on your hard drive. This is great for documents not created on your Mac like legal items, your taxes, receipts, love letters, etc.

To sign up with KwikTag, simply go to their Web site and provide them with some personal information. You can get a free trial service for storing and retrieving documents, but for larger quantities you'll have to purchase batches of eFlags.

[www.kwiktag.com](http://www.kwiktag.com)

## Online Storage Providers

| Service  | Address                                                | Free MB | Additional Storage                                                     | Max Storage |
|----------|--------------------------------------------------------|---------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Driveway | <a href="http://www.driveway.com">www.driveway.com</a> | 25      | 100 MB for 3 months<br>\$29.95 or 1 year for<br>\$107.95, up to 500 MB | 525 MB      |
| iDisk    | <a href="http://www.apple.com">www.apple.com</a>       | 20      | \$1/MB/annually in amounts<br>of 50, 100, 200, or 400 MB               | 420 MB      |
| iDrive   | <a href="http://www.idrive.com">www.idrive.com</a>     | 50      | Requires new account                                                   | 50 MB       |

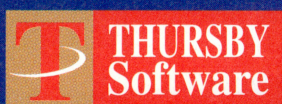




# MacSOHO<sup>TM</sup> It rocks!

If your small office has a Mac and PC that need to share files, then you need MacSOHO, from Thursby Software. MacSOHO is the easiest, most cost effective way for your Macs and PCs to become best friends. It's fast, really fast, and secure and it's so simple to use and easy to install on your Macintosh, you'll think it rocks! MacSOHO, the perfect solution for your home or small office.

Download a free evaluation today.



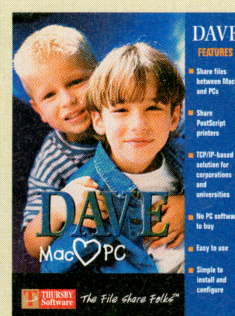
*The File Share Folks<sup>TM</sup>*

[www.thursby.com](http://www.thursby.com)

**THURSBY SOFTWARE** has the  
perfect file share solution to  
meet your needs.



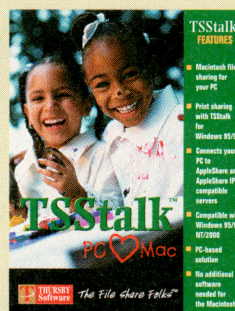
**The ideal solution for the small  
office where Macs & PCs need  
to share files.**



**The fast, easy way to share  
files and printers between  
PCs and Macintosh systems.**



**Achieve true NFS connectivity  
between your Mac and  
UNIX systems.**



**Windows users can access  
files on any Mac workstation  
or AppleShare server.**



## VirusBarrier 1.0

**The old standbys** in Mac virus software protection have been whittled down to just a few major contenders, leaving Mac users few choices. Now there's a new kid on the block. Intego, publisher of that great software firewall program, NetBarrier, has introduced VirusBarrier.

Sporting a stylish interface similar to NetBarrier, VirusBarrier offers the features Mac users have come to expect from virus protection software. All known virus strains, including those ubiquitous Microsoft Word macro viruses, are checked. The only visible indication that the program is running is a warning if a virus infection has been detected. You can set up VirusBarrier to perform scheduled or manual scans, or you can just let it run in the background. Unlike some other virus protection programs, you can keep VirusBarrier

running when you install new software without affecting the installation process.

You can use the NetUpdate feature to automatically track Intego's Website for new virus definitions. If an update is available, you can install it manually. Despite the claim that this feature is unique, other antivirus programs are equipped with update features that are automatic, saving you a step in the updating process.

However, not everything is rosy with VirusBarrier. During testing, we ran into some serious performance bugs. Despite the claim of transparent operation, we encountered severe slowdowns on a spanking-new 500MHz iMac DV Special Edition. Finder functions were particularly affected; applications were slow to open, and overall system performance seemed like molasses. During a virus scan of an external FireWire drive connected to a PowerMac G4 Cube, Virus



Barrier froze repeatedly. Intego says that reported bugs are being addressed in a version 1.0.1 update, which will be available for download shortly after this issue goes to press.

**The Final Decision** VirusBarrier shows a lot of promise. On the basis of features alone, it compares favorably to the competition.

Should the promised update fix the bugs we discovered, this program would get an enthusiastic recommendation.

— Gene Steinberg

### rating

\$70, Intego, Inc.  
877-946-8346  
www.intego.com

 Fast installation, comprehensive virus protection, nearly transparent operation

 Lacks printed manual, serious performance and compatibility bugs

## QuickConference 1.5

**When we were** passing notes in school, it wasn't important if we used pens or pencils. These days, however, mixed platforms sometimes don't get along. Thanks to QuickConference, however, we can at least still pass notes.

QuickConference 1.5, allows everyone on your office network to send each other instant-messages. One machine acts as the server, or traffic cop, and the others are clients. Chats can be archived and printed (or not), and QuickConference can be scaled up as a business grows.

QuickConference is usually invisible. When you get a message, a window pops up so you can read it and reply. Messages can be sent to everyone, a group, or just one user. Client setup is delightfully fast. The printed manual's instructions are thorough and easy to follow. Set the

"logon information" up once, and it will logon automatically.

Server setup is easy too, though novices might get confused by the manual's presumption

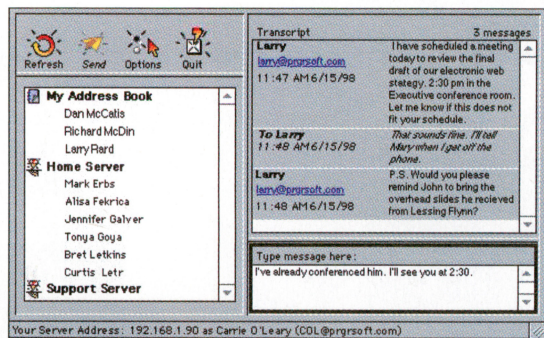
that they already know how to assign IP numbers.

Once active, the windows can either be launched from the Apple Menu or hidden. You can quit the program and it will relaunch itself if you receive a message, or you can log out entirely.

Sometimes, however, it's intrusive to have pop-up windows appearing all over your screen. For those occasions, QuickConference has customizable "do not disturb" blocks that hold messages until you decide to view them.

**The Final Decision** QuickConference 1.5 is a headache-free Instant Messenger and it's a godsend for small offices. Just be careful when you enter the address of the recipient — we don't want your love notes to be "shared with the class," now do we?

— Charles Martin



### rating

\$120 (5-user pack), Prairie Group, Inc.  
www.pgrsoft.com  
800-346-5392

 Easy to install, allows for remote messaging, customizable

 Manual presumes some knowledge of TCP/IP, precludes dialup TCP/IP connections



## HP DeskJet 990Cse

**I've been frustrated** by the lack of flexibility in affordable desktop printers for a long time, primarily because they didn't automatically print on both sides of the page. Either you wasted paper or you wasted time as you re-fed sheets manually. The DeskJet 990Cse, Hewlett-Packard's new \$399 color printer, has a standard two-sided printing module that solves this annoyance.

The HP 990Cse has a stylish, curvy case. In addition to its two-sided printing ability, it offers an infrared receiver for printing from palms and some PowerBooks. The paper trays are stacked



one on top of the other in a useful, low-profile design, and you can fill the lower tray with up to 150 sheets of plain paper. The 990Cse also accepts photo-grade paper, transparencies, envelopes, cards, and labels. The 990Cse's optical paper sensor automatically identifies the print media in the tray.

The 990Cse quickly and quietly prints your documents — up to 17 pages per minute in black and 13 pages per minute in color. Our test prints showed sharp-edged and well-defined text in both black and white and color. Color images were very impressive in the 2,400 x 1,200 high-resolution photo mode — an option when using photo paper. There was little difference between the draft and the high-resolution settings — only slightly lighter shades of color and less definition, making the image look a hair flatter.

Remarkable. Then it neatly sets the sheet(s) on the uppermost tray.

The 990Cse is very versatile, as the infrared receiver makes printing from a Palm Pilot or wireless PowerBook as easy as pointing and shooting.

**The Final Decision** The HP 990Cse will likely meet all of your home or small office needs. It is well designed, comes with a two-sided printing module, an infrared receiver, an Optical Paper Sensor, and it produces stunning images. What more could you want?

— Ross Tibbitts

### rating ★★★★★

\$399, Hewlett-Packard, Inc.  
800-552-8500  
www.hp.com  
USB Required

👍 Practical, two-sided printing, infrared sensor, automatic media identification, excellent print quality

👎 Not a one

## IBM Infoprint 12

**Big Blue. When was** the last time you read those two words in the same sentence with Apple or Macintosh? Admittedly, it's a rare occurrence. But lo and behold, here we are reviewing IBM's new Infoprint 12 laser printer — with Mac drivers.

The Infoprint has a compact black enclosure that looks steely and sophisticated. But looks aren't everything. Loading the drivers onto my Mac was as simple as loading the IBM CD and installing the software that was clearly marked Mac. Upon restart, everything went off without a hitch, and the Infoprint 12 icon appeared in the chooser window.

The Infoprint will print up to 12 pages per minute (hence the name) and has a maximum resolution of 600 x 600 dpi. This will ensure that your text documents look professional and crisp. Unfortunately, because this printer does

not come with PostScript software installed — software that allows images and letters to be rendered with incredibly smooth curves and edges — you probably won't want to use this for professional-grade printing. You can buy PostScript 3 as an option, with 8 MB of RAM for \$199.

The Infoprint 12 comes with a 250 sheet paper tray and you can purchase additional trays in different variations from IBM if you need expandability, up to 550 sheets. There is also a multi-purpose tray extension that simply pulls out from the front of the printer. It holds up to 100 sheets and gives you the flexibility you'll need if you want to print on envelopes, transparencies, heavier weight paper, labels, or if you need to feed the machine manually. While you are feeding sheets through this



tray, open the rear tray so that your media moves through the machine without getting bent.

### The Final Decision

The Infoprint 12 is a great laser printer for daily office tasks. It is versatile, compact, and well designed. Although PostScript is available as an option, it brings the price well beyond \$500, which is unfortunate.

— Ross Tibbitts

### rating ★★★★★

\$399, IBM, Inc.  
888-746-7426  
www.ibm.com  
PowerPC Required

👍 Excellent text rendering, compact design, USB connectivity

👎 Doesn't come with PostScript



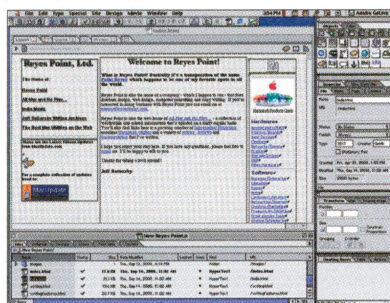
## Adobe GoLive 5

**The beauty of** Adobe GoLive has always been the program's power and simplicity to help everyone, from neophytes to professionals, to create visually pleasing Websites with amazing ease. GoLive 5 continues the trend, adding a number of excellent features and a distinctly Adobe-like look.

Open the box, install the software and start using the program. The first thing you'll notice when you use GoLive 5 is that the program has been assimilated. Clearly, the most obvious change to GoLive is that it now looks just like every other Adobe program. While it lacks the standard Adobe toolbar, every other tool is now stored in customizable, tabbed palettes. Like other Adobe programs, a simple drag-and-drop from one palette to another allows you to suit your specific needs. You also get Adobe's standard color palette, which simplifies choosing and

using colors on your Web pages.

GoLive 5 now includes a new table editing tool that allows you to save and reuse table styles. Not only can the program handle QuickTime with ease, but you can also integrate your QuickTime movies with other multimedia formats like Macromedia's Flash. Version 5 also includes a number of tools to make handling and manipulating Web images easier. First, like many of Adobe's recent design tools, GoLive allows you to edit Photoshop, Illustrator, and LiveMotion files right from within GoLive. (Of course, you'll have to have these programs on your computer.) Also, GoLive now includes the same image optimization features available in Adobe's ImageReady. To accomplish this, GoLive uses Smart Objects. Simply drag a Smart Object to your Web page, select the image you want on the page, and a new



window will appear, allowing you to view, adjust and ultimately save your image at your chosen optimization level.

**The Final Decision** Adobe GoLive 5 maintains its hold at the high end of the Web design strata. A better user interface and powerful integration with image and multimedia editing tools makes the program excel.

— Jeff Battersby

**rating** ★★★★★

**\$284, Adobe Systems**  
408-536-6000  
www.adobe.com

Simple and elegant Web design tool, great integration with Adobe products and multimedia standards

None

## Quik Sync 2

**Have you ever lost** your precious files due to a hard drive failure? About all you can do in this dreadful scenario is reformat the drive. If you have a backup of your files, you're in good shape. Once the drive is ready, you can just reinstall the Mac OS, then re-load your files. That's where a backup program such as Iomega's Quik Sync 2 comes into play.

Quik Sync has an ultra-slick setup assistant that makes quick work of choosing the files slated for regular backups. Once configured, it'll periodically check your selected folders for changed

files, and then back them up to your Jaz or Zip media. The backups are done in the background and we observed little slowdown on a Blue & White PowerMac

G3 upgraded to G4 status, using one of Iomega's Jaz drives. Each time Quik Sync 2 does a backup of your files, it saves them as individual iterations, so that you have a selection of each version of the saved file to refer to.

It sounds like the ideal backup solution for a home or small

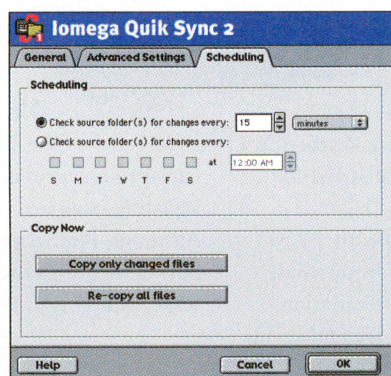
business user, but it's got one severe limitation: You can only back up to Iomega's own removables. This territorial approach may be just dandy from a marketing standpoint, since it forces users to buy into their hardware if they want to use this program, but it would have been

nicer (and more convenient) to provide support for other drives, too.

Another annoyance: If Quik Sync 2 detects that your Iomega media is nearly filled, it offers to take you to the company's Website to buy more, rather than just asking you to insert another disk if you have one on hand.

**The Final Decision** Iomega's Quik Sync 2 is a clever application that'll help you preserve your files in case the worst happens. If Iomega would add support for other backup drives, this would be a first-rate solution.

— Gene Steinberg



**rating** ★★★★★

**\$20, Iomega, Inc.**  
888-516-8467  
www.iomega.com

Inexpensive, convenient setup assistant, automatic backup of changed files

Only works with Jaz and Zip drives



# THE FIRST Electronic Workbooks



*"They are among the best educational software to be seen in years."*

*—Larry Blasko, AP*

*"Do you have kids in need of a little extra practice with those stubborn school subjects? We recommend the Electronic Workbook Series."*

*—Warren Buckleitner, Children's Software Revue*

## NEW On-Track Software!

This new concept in software provides a simple, fresh, one-of-a-kind educational tool for parents, teachers and children. Kids will love the fun activities and exciting arcade games as they improve their skills. Based on the famous School Zone workbook line, On-Track Software brings proven content to the computer.

Visit us at [www.schoolzone.com](http://www.schoolzone.com) or call 1-800-253-0564.





## SoundSticks

If you're a sound aficionado, and you like your games to cause thunder beneath your chair and your tunes to come through loud and clear, then the built-in stereo speakers that came with your iMac are just not going to cut it. And if you're a sound enthusiast with a G4, PowerBook, or iBook, then forget about it — you're going to need some external speakers. Harman Multimedia, the division of Harman/Kardon that brought you speakers for the latest iMacs, the Cube, and the iSub, now bring you SoundSticks, a set of external speakers that you can use with any USB Mac.

SoundSticks comes with two desktop speakers and a subwoofer, and each component is encased in smooth, translucent plastic like that of Apple's new mouse, keyboard, and Cinema Display. The desktop units — which provide the midrange and treble frequencies — sport

four individual speakers in a vertical column to evenly distribute the sound. They rest on rubber donuts, and you can tilt these speakers forward and back for a wide range of angles. Their small footprint allows them to be stowed in small spaces around your desk. The subwoofer, originally released by Harman Multimedia as the iSub, is a large, clear, gumdrop-shaped device that provides the bass. The iSub now has a bass control, which the original lacked, but there's no overall volume control.

SoundSticks will provide a noticeable improvement over your built-in speakers. You will feel the bass through the soles of your feet, and you can feel the timbre of melodic instruments. But in comparison to other, less-expensive speaker sets, SoundSticks were weaker in the bass department, and a bit muddier and more subdued in the midrange frequencies.

**The Final Decision** SoundSticks are a



complete set of stereo speakers that will greatly enhance the sound of your Mac. If you're captivated by their distinctive look, then they won't do you wrong. Sound-wise, however, they provided less oomph than we expected.

— David Weiss

### rating

\$199, Harman/Kardon  
877-266-6202  
www.harman-multimedia.com  
USB Required

 Nine individual speakers, bass control, contemporary Apple-like design

 Bass could be beefier, midrange could be brighter, no volume control

## SoftWindows 98

Way back when, SoftWindows was the only game in town if you wanted to emulate Windows on your Mac. Then along came the competition and suddenly, SoftWindows was left for dead. For those of you who pine for the original, FWB Software is now distributing SoftWindows 98, providing you with more options for running Windows software on your Mac.

Right out of the box, it's pretty clear that not much has changed about SoftWindows 98. Even though the program is now owned by FWB Software, almost every splash screen and graphic still bears the Insignia Solutions logo. Not much has changed under the hood either. Soft-

Windows 98 still makes running Windows-only software on your Mac a simple process. FWB has also refined the installation process, putting everything you need on one disk, instead of the program's former two-disk process.

Installation of PC software was quick and easy. As a test of horsepower, I installed Deneba CAD and QuickTime 4. SoftWindows was able to run Deneba CAD without a hitch. Although, as

is expected with any emulation program, loading CAD drawings with a significant number of objects took quite some time. QuickTime 4 was another story. While the program loaded easily, just running the sample QuickTime movie proved to be too much for SoftWindows, resulting in very jumpy graphics and terrible audio. Networking with SoftWindows 98

also presented a problem. The program did not immediately recognize that I had built-in Ethernet and required me to configure it myself. TCP/IP networking, which should be a breeze to set up, was, at best, a complete pain in the keester. Other PC-emulation products turn networking into a simple, Mac-like process.

**The Final decision** SoftWindows 98 may have been the first emulation program on the block, but it doesn't provide the smoothest of experiences. Bottom line: If you need to run Windows software on your Macintosh, you're better off looking at the competition.

— Jeff Battersby

### rating

\$160, FWB Software  
www.fwb.com  
408-969-8620

 Runs Windows software on your Mac, easy installation

 Some minor glitches when running Windows software, difficult network setup



# Word 2001

## Microsoft Word Redux — The Wait is Over!

**Mac users have long had a** love/hate relationship with Microsoft Word. Ya gotta have it since it seems everyone else does, but you don't have to like it. Endless complaints about the interface, performance, features, and PC compatibility have followed it since version one back in 1984.

While Word 2001 doesn't let off all that pent-up steam, it brings it down to a low simmer. Word still has many features that frustrate, but Microsoft has listened to users and done a lot to make things more accessible, useful, and customizable, including much more integration between the various components of the Office suite.

First off, you'll notice the interface, which is straight out of the OS 9 handbook. It's got toolbars that can be sized and positioned anywhere on the screen. As before, you can add and subtract items from the bars to fit your needs. You'll also notice a new toolbar: a very useful Web browser bar that takes you directly to Explorer.

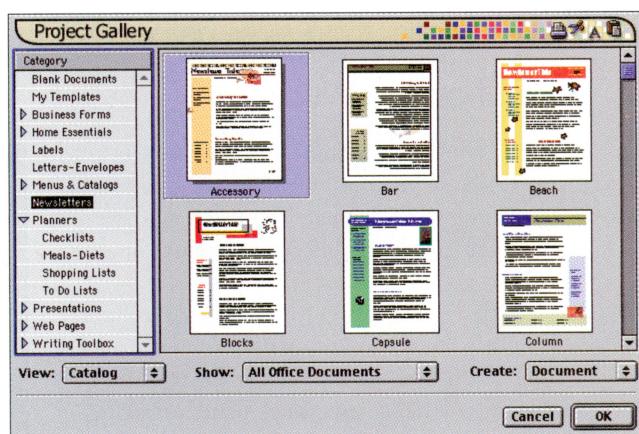
**By Becky Waring**

One of Word's best new features is the Project Gallery, an enormous collection of templates and sample documents that you can open and replace with your own text. Word has extensive page layout capabilities, but they are hard to figure out, especially for novices. With the Gallery, you can browse to find a document that fits your project, then simply copy and paste your own content.

Using a Gallery template, I created an entire two-sided, three-fold brochure in about an hour, including playing with fonts and sizes, cropping pictures, writing blurbs and so on. It turned out great on my color printer, and would have required hours of head-scratching and designing without the templates to choose from.

Recognizing that many people probably spend more time writing emails than documents these days, Word 2001 boasts tight integration with Entourage, Office's new email and contact manager. When in Entourage, most basic Word formatting and spelling functions are available, and when in Word, you can access the Entourage Address Book directly for contact names and addresses. This is especially handy for mail merges. Word 2001 can now do mail merges to print or email, a huge feature.

If you have your own Web site, you'll also love Word 2001's much-improved ability to save and preview documents as Web pages. The HTML code is much cleaner, and you can even design in the new Online Layout view, which gives you a widescreen browser-size window.



Finally, we really like the new Collect and Paste feature, which lets you paste multiple objects (pictures or text). It works across all Office 2001 applications.

In terms of cross-platform compatibility, Microsoft says Word 2001 has full file compatibility with both Word 98 for Mac and Word 97/2000 for Windows. Of course some new features are not available in older versions, so you may have to turn certain things off if you exchange with Word 97 or 98 users. But Microsoft says that Word 2001 for Mac contains all the features in Word 2000 for Windows and more, with 100 percent file compatibility. AppleWorks import is also provided.

Word 2001 seems noticeably more responsive in terms of performance, in addition to all the new features. It's even more space and memory-hogging than before, however, largely due to all the templates (160MB for a typical Office installation!). But don't let that stop you. After you've tried it, you won't go back! **MHJ**

### rating

\$399, Microsoft Corp.  
800-426-9400  
[www.microsoft.com/mac](http://www.microsoft.com/mac)  
PowerPC required

Excellent integration with Office programs, improved cross-platform compatibility, great templates, more-customizable interface

Very memory hungry; many features still hard to access



# Read All About It!

## *Great Ways to Get News on the Web*

**Are you getting sick and tired** of information overload, propaganda, hype, commercials, rumor, gossip, and innuendo? We didn't think so. More folks than ever before are news junkies, and the place to find the latest is right on the Web.

Sure, you can sit in front of the TV all day glued to CNN, or you can otherwise live a normal life by letting some popular Web-based news services give you exactly the information you're interested in.

Some recently upgraded Web-based utilities can help you glean information from disparate sources all over the Internet, whether you're looking for daily news, stock prices, or something a bit more specialized — like the movie listings in your area. Specialized Websites give you just the information you're looking for.

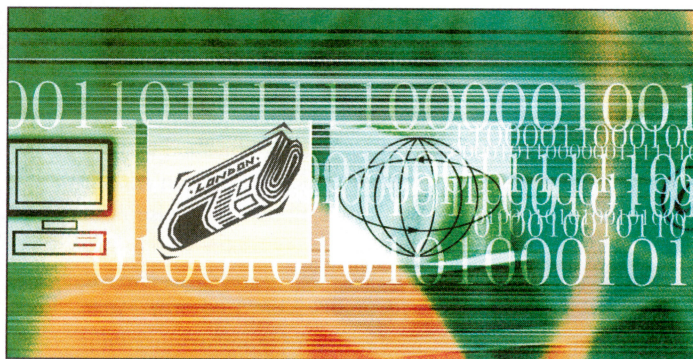
### News Browsing

Aladdin ([www.aladdinsys.com](http://www.aladdinsys.com)) has just upgraded its IntelliNews utility to version 3. This specialized Web browser, for \$20, culls news from various Internet news

sources and delivers it right to your desktop. With most items, you'll need to have your Web browser launched, with others, it will deliver the text in its own window.

Like a magazine, IntelliNews 3 has a number of built-in sections such as headlines, stations, stocks, sports, movies, and the weather. They're easily accessible via an attractive blue button bar that you can position on your screen.

Clicking on any of those categories can lead to further choices to narrow down your search for information. The Entertainment section simply gives you stories from sources such as *Live Daily*, *Nando Times*, *Hollywood Online*, and others. Say you want to know the weather in your parents' hometown, the Weather Channel gives you all the details. You can add personalized stations to your My IntelliNews section, but unfortunately you can't do that from the main menu; you have to do it from inside



the Welcome window. Stock prices are accessible with a mouse click. While there are some default companies listed, needless to say, you can add any company you want.

### CRAYON

Did you ever wish your daily newspaper contained more of what you're interested in and less of what you don't care about? With Create Your Own Newspaper, or CRAYON (<http://crayon.net>), a free browser-based news source, you can actually tailor your own online newspaper to suit your needs. Upon arriving at the CRAYON Website, you're asked for your email address and zip code so local news can be tailored to your account. Then, pick from hundreds of established (and not-so-established) news sources and topics such as religion, business, science, health, sports, local news, comics, and more. When you're done choosing your topics, just hit the button titled Create My Newspaper Now. When your paper has been assembled, you get your own URL, which you can access every day for updated news. That URL is sent to your email address, so copy and store it. Also, bookmark it, or better still, use it as your browser's opening page.

By Jackie Dove



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## Sherlock 2

If you're using Mac OS 9, then you have a great, easy news source at your disposal in the form of Sherlock 2. Find it right under the Apple Menu. This advanced search engine can target a keyword search for general and specific news topics. Just select the globe (the icon for Internet), type a keyword or two into the search window, and hit the magnifying glass icon.

Depending on which search engine Websites you have checked or downloaded, you'll typically get a long list of responses. Each entry you click on will appear in a window within Sherlock, complete with a short description and a relevance rating. This is a very handy way to search the Web for a vast variety of results. Click again and the page you want automatically appears in your browser window.

## My Page

Don't forget about personalized pages from Web portals such as Yahoo, Excite, and Lycos, all of which have prominently displayed headlines and links to in-



**Neat News Browser!** IntelliNews 3 from Aladdin gives you an icon based menu from which to choose news, sports, weather, financial, or entertainment news.

and layout of the page to your taste and then use it as your home page every day.

## Power Stock Ticker

We know that news is your name, but perhaps stocks is your game. Have a look at Aladdin Systems' PowerTicker 2.0 ([www.aladdinsys.com](http://www.aladdinsys.com)). The minute you launch this \$30 application, a black scrolling ticker appears on your screen with windows containing information about stock prices. This browser lets you view free stock market information posted by financial Websites worldwide.

Using PowerTicker, you can track stocks, indexes, and mutual funds. The software includes a portfolio manager that lets you enter information about stocks and funds you've purchased. As the value of the securities changes, PowerTicker helps you track your gains and losses. A summary window lets you see just the items you need without having to wait for it to scroll on the ticker bar.

You can change the appearance of the ticker bar, making it scroll faster or slower, and change its position on the screen. Say your stock gains or loses, you can program PowerTicker to give you a sound alert or even send you an email.

But can you trust PowerTicker? Where does it get the information? Among other places, financial information appearing on the ticker comes from Quicken.com, Quote.com, globeinvestor.com, Yahoo, and several other trustworthy sources.

## Way Cool Sites

And just because we're news junkies, we wanted to share with you some of our own offbeat favorite news sites. In the "You Can't Possibly Take This

Seriously" category comes The Onion ([www.theonion.com](http://www.theonion.com)), a satirical newspaper.

Where else can you read stories with headlines like "Terrorist Extremely Annoyed By Delayed Flight?" Or try an in-depth report on C-SPAN's first-ever original movie, *Quorum Call: The H.R.1277 Story*, billed as "the incredible, true tale of the passage of the Department of Energy Civilian Research and Development Act of 1997." Look for interviews, movie reviews, and The Onion's own Cultural Idiocy quiz.

For technology news and the cultural and political news of the day with a tech twist, try Wired News ([www.wired.com](http://www.wired.com)). While no one can accuse Wired of not telling the story straight, their view tends to be skewed to the dot-com digital world.

You don't have to be an optimist to appreciate the positive side of life, and you won't have to search too hard at Positive Press ([www.positivepress.com](http://www.positivepress.com)). On a downer? Cheer up, because this site specializes in positive news, positive talk, and even gives you a positive saying of the day. Gathering inspirational stories from many different news sources — not all of them happy — this site offers you a look at the bright side of life.

But say you just want weird. No problem. USA Today has a page called Slightly Off Center ([www.usatoday.com/news/nweird.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/news/nweird.htm)), just for you. Part of the USA Today Website, this page specializes in stories such as "Bambi Goes Ballistic" and "Man Too Smart for Police Loses Appeal."

These are not satirical stories, just straight news items compiled in the spirit that truth is stranger than fiction. Or merely strange. **MHJ**

## Nose for News

**Salon Magazine** - [www.salon.com](http://www.salon.com)

**The New York Times** - [www.nytimes.com](http://www.nytimes.com)

**BBC Online** - [www.bbc.co.uk](http://www.bbc.co.uk)

**AlterNet** - [www.alternet.org](http://www.alternet.org)

**Disinformation** - [www.disinformation.com](http://www.disinformation.com)

depth coverage in text, audio, and video format. Yahoo's In the News section, for example, features a handful of major late-breaking stories, and a More button takes you to a full list of links from established sources such as Reuters, Associated Press, *Christian Science Monitor*, *The New York Times*, and hundreds of others. But the real fun comes with creating a personalized page called My Yahoo that gives you news, stocks, weather, sports, and other information you want. You can change the content



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Tom Clancy's  
**RAINBOW SIX**  
**ROGUE SPEAR**

# MISSED ME?



Team Rainbow is back in full force. *Rogue Spear*—the sequel to *Rainbow Six*—immerses you even deeper in the explosive action of an elite, multinational strike force.

*Rogue Spear* feels so real, you'll be yelling "Tango Down!" in your sleep for weeks. And the multiplayer action is to die for. Remember, when stalking an enemy: Walk softly but strike like a thunderbolt. You only have one shot to save the world.

Eighteen new missions, full sniper support, a new replay feature and terrorists more realistic and lethal than ever!

**Includes 13 Additional Levels with Bonus MISSION PACK: URBAN OPERATIONS**



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## Click and Ye Shall Give

What with the holidays upon us, the number one priorities are naturally family, friends, and holiday cheer. Yet this is also the time that many want to give more to those in need. "Click-to-donate" Websites are not only a hassle-free way to give unto others, but your contribution doesn't cost you a penny.

No need to feel guilty! Corporate sponsors pay for donations as a means of advertising and public relations. Making a donation to a worthy cause not only makes the world a better place, but gives them visibility and helps generate public good will toward the company.

Click to donate Websites — just one of several varieties of charitable Websites springing up all over the Web — are easy and fast. Once you are on the home page, you simply click a button to donate goods or services paid for by a set of sponsors. Most sites let you donate once a day, though others let you donate as often as you want. Funds are typically given to established organizations in that charitable genre.

Of course, we are not implying that such donation Websites in any way replace your other charitable donations and volunteer work. Rather, participating in a click-to-donate Website can augment all the good work you normally do all year round.

**FreeDonation.com** ([www.freedonation.com](http://www.freedonation.com)) is a Web portal for the click-to-donate genre of charitable Websites. Like many of these sites, it is visually spare, text-based, and quick to download without a lot of fancy images and animations. The object is to load fast and get you to clicking. The home page is linked to Websites that let you make donations to help people with AIDS and cancer, support various arts organizations, promote education, protect the environment, help the homeless, and end hunger. Money goes to organizations such as food banks, homeless shelters, and children's services.

If you can envision world peace, you can also donate to it at the **Peace for All.com** ([www.peaceforall.com](http://www.peaceforall.com)) Website. Each click represents a free donation to refugee relief via the U.S. Association for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). The USA for UNHCR helps provide basic needs such as shelter, food, medicine, and protection for victims of war and those fleeing persecution. Among other things, the organization also promotes international peace and friendly international relations, and assures the right of asylum. Peace for All.com is a simple and informative Website that's engaging to behold. It's even got a nifty little news ticker scrolling across the top.

Say you could donate food to hungry people all over the planet by just clicking a button? **The Hunger Site** ([www.thehungersite.com](http://www.thehungersite.com)), lets you do just that. The site reports it has sent some

17 million pounds of food to countries via the United Nations

World Food Programme.

Another link goes to the site's shopping village, where you can order gifts

and merchandise from participating vendors — who donate one cup of food for every dollar you spend. More than 34 million people have visited [thehungersite.com](http://thehungersite.com), which was launched in July 1999. They now get almost 10 million clicks a month, totaling some \$1.5 million in corporate contributions, according to published figures. Look to this site for information about why people the world over are hungry, for many resources of in-depth information, and contact with other charitable organizations.



**The Rainforest Site** ([www.therainforestsitesite.com](http://www.therainforestsitesite.com)), a companion Website to the HungerSite.com — both run by GreaterGood.com — has a wealth of information about rainforest decimation. All you have to do (you guessed it!) is click a button and you can actually donate land under the aegis of The Nature Conservancy's Adopt an Acre program.



Animal lovers, check this out! You can help homeless dogs and cats at the **Save A Stray Website** ([www.saveastray.com](http://www.saveastray.com)).

The biggest help for such animals is to prevent any more of them from being born. One click facilitates a donation to the Spay-Neuter Assistance

Program, a non-profit organization. The site says that 250 clicks pays to spay or neuter a single dog or cat. For every dog that is fixed there are 67,000 fewer homeless puppies over a six-year period. For every cat spayed or neutered there are 420,000 fewer homeless kittens in seven years. Meow!





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Community Chest

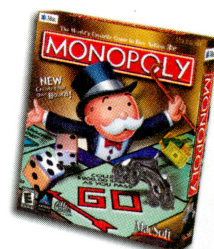
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## Pangea

**If you're looking for** alternatives to leather, whether it be shoes, watchstraps, belts, or jackets, Pangea ([www.pangeaveg.com](http://www.pangeaveg.com)) is one place where you never have to ask what the product is made of. Pangea, a shop in Washington, D.C., specializes in cruelty-free, vegan clothing, body care items, gifts, and household products. Find hand-crafted cotton or hemp neckties, dog and cat products, and foods, books, bags, and more. Each pictured item can be enlarged with a single click.

**By Jackie Dove**

## The Last Minute

**We all know the trials** and tribulations of last-minute shopping. Where to go? What to get? How not to spend a fortune (or perhaps spending a fortune is the idea?). Let's face it, if you haven't finished your holiday shopping by the time you read this, you're running out of time. Seriously. So get with it! We mined the Web for some good sites that have thoughtful and creative gifts for all the loved ones in your life.



If you've got a dot-com, cell phone, "Palm Pilot" kind of life, perhaps your favorite thing is to relax without distraction in the comfort of your home with your family and friends around you. If you need an elegant gift for your own home or someone else's, try **Good To Be Home** ([www.goodtobehome.com](http://www.goodtobehome.com)), which has some unique and beautiful gifts. If you're into lighting, rugs, frames, vases, lamps, and other household items, then check out this site. The owners say that before they buy, they road test the merchandise by actually walking barefoot on the rugs, viewing their loved ones in the picture frames, switching lamps

on and off, and testing the heft of candlesticks and vases.

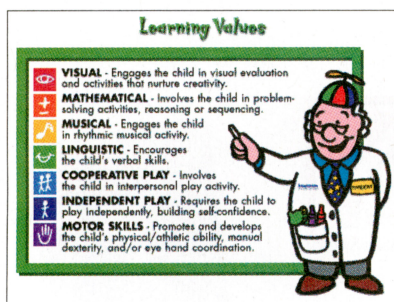
You know you're creative, and now you want to give a gift with that hand-made look. **ARTisanGifts.com** ([www.artisangifts.com](http://www.artisangifts.com)) gives you a wealth of reasonably priced items made by loving hands. Look here for men's and women's gifts, home tchotchkes, kid stuff, jewelry, and more. And you don't have to worry about wrapping. All gifts are individually wrapped in satin bags or hand-woven fabric boxes, and sent with a personalized card.



If you're a parent, it never seems to stop — shopping for the kids, that is. And what they like the best is toys, toys, toys. At **Imaginarium** ([www.imaginarium.com](http://www.imaginarium.com)),

you can find fun, educational toys from around the world, specially selected by a "Master Toyologist" who looks for high learning value, play value, and most of all, fun. The Website has a charming dark blue background with colorful buttons and menus that take you to different areas. Toy categories include outdoor activities, pretend, construction, arts and crafts, science and nature, books, and more. If you don't know what to get, just specify the child's age and the learning

experience you're looking for, and the Website will come up with a list of toy suggestions and prices. Very handy for that hard-to-please youngster in your life.



## Pets.com

**And let's not** forget little Fluffy or Fido this holiday season. We all know how our animals crave attention and how we love to lavish attention on them. Pets.com ([www.pets.com](http://www.pets.com)) is the place to go. This fun companion animal site not only lets you buy all the supplies you need for your darling, it also provides loads of links for information about veterinary care, legal, and other animal issues. A list of feature stories changes periodically. When you click on any of the pet categories, such as dogs, cats, fish, birds, ferrets, reptiles, and small pets, the site takes you to a well-organized page of pet supplies, food, and informative articles. And you can make a purchase from virtually every page.





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## JEOPARDY!



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Now you're in the game with many, never-before-seen puzzles to solve. See if you can solve a variety of clever puzzles, specially written by the producers of the Wheel of Fortune television program. Join host Vanna White as she takes you and your fellow contestants on location and on your way to cash and prizes!

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The popular, thought-provoking game show that keeps you coming back for more! Put yourself on the set with host Alex Trebek and experience the glamour, the pace and the excitement from the contestant's point of view. With more than 3,500 challenging answers Jeopardy is better than ever and ready to play on your Mac!

*Are you ready to play?*



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# Bible Study

*Bring the Scriptures to Your Mac*

**Whether you're a student or a professor** of theology, a clergyman (or woman), or an individual simply interested in reading and studying the Bible for the first time — or for the second time in a very different way — there's an incredibly advanced piece of software you should know about.

Accordance Library 4 Bible Software, designed only for Macs, offers a dizzying array of ways to enrich your reading of the Bible. To name but a few, this software offers accurate text searches, comparisons between different books of the Bible, dictionaries, commentaries, and Accordance's Bible Atlas, a separate application that is fully integrated with the software for viewing wonderful maps of places mentioned throughout the Bible. Choose from fourteen different Bible versions — King James, American Standard, Spanish, etc. — that you're interested in exploring, and you're on your way.

## Search

Main searches with Accordance are done by entering the information you're seeking into one of two modes. First, though, choose which part of the Bible you'd like to search, such as All Text (hallelujah! the whole blessed thing), Gene-

**By Carolyn Blackburn**

sis, Psalms, or John — you can define any range you're interested in studying, and save it for future reference.

In Search Criteria mode, enter a word or phrase and every verse with that word or phrase will show up in the text window pane. An All Text search for "love" brought up every verse that contains the word — 280 of them.

Verse References mode allows you to search by book, chapter, and verse. For example, if you want to pull up Psalms, chapter 44, verse 5, through Psalms, chapter 73, verse 10, simply type "psa 44:5 – 73:10." If you'd like to get even more detailed than that, by all means, narrow your search. For Psalms, chapter 10, verses 3 through 5, and verse 9, type in "psa 10:3-5, 9." This is the wonder of Accordance: When you think you've tailored your search as much as possible, you can most likely go a step further.

During any text search, you'll appreciate the text



access buttons

for navigating further by verse, chapter, and book. If you're reading the book of Genesis, for example, click the down Book arrow to quickly reach the book of Exodus. From the book of Exodus, hold the Shift button and click the down Book arrow to travel ten books ahead, to the Book of Kings. Again, this function works similarly for navigating verse and chapter.

## Amplify

Searching the Bible with Accordance becomes so multi-layered that its designers named a panel of functions the Amplify palette. Click on Analysis, Plot, and Table, for three different breakdowns of a word search, for example. This might seem redundant for the beginner Bible student, but advanced theologians will no doubt find a use for three



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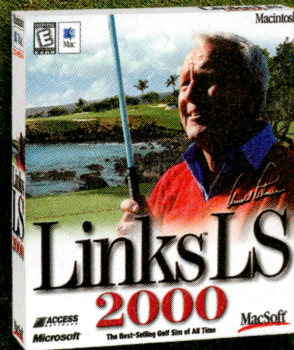
**Real courses. Real physics. Real ball control.**



Fuzzy Zoeller joins Arnold Palmer  
and three other new golfers



Featuring St Andrews Old Course,  
plus five new courses



You'll feel like Links LS 2000 is the perfect reflection of your real golf game. And with six new courses (including the spectacular St Andrews Old Course), 35 modes-of-play, and "constructive criticism" from cutup golf announcer David Feherty, you've got plenty of opportunity to improve. Watch out for the rough!



**ACCESS**  
SOFTWARE

**Microsoft**

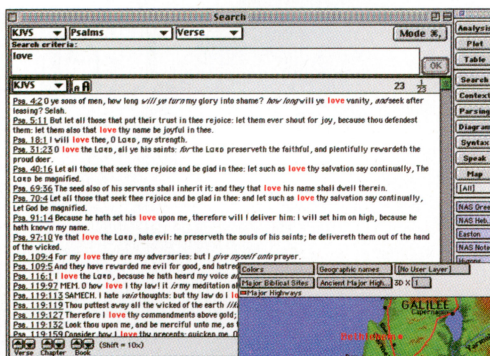


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similar, yet different (text, graph, and table) tools.

Another function in the Amplify palette is the Context button, which works as follows. If you perform a search for "rain" in the book of Matthew, three verses from three different chapters will appear. To bring one of these verses into connection with its original surrounding text, highlight it, and click on Context — a pop-up window will appear with the verse sandwiched between its immediate neighbors (glory be!).

Another function of the Amplify palette is its ability to acquaint users with Strong's dictionaries — developed by

metaphor: An innovative way to search software. Unlike similar programs, which generally allow for singular searches that appear in separate windows, concordance metaphor allows for multiple Bible search

results to appear in parallel panes that can be viewed simultaneously. This ensures a no-clutter, hassle-free approach to your study.

If you don't have a mind's eye for geography, be sure to install Accordance's Bible Atlas.

Thereafter, at any time during your study you can highlight a location in the text you're reading

— Galilee, the Tigris River, Bethlehem, Canaan, etc. — and click Map in the Amplify palette for a pop-up window with a map and various tools. Among these tools are routes taken by Biblical travelers and descriptions of important cities and regions.

There are other tools in the Amplify palette — too many to mention here — for rounding out your Bible study. Access the Bible Study Guide, the Parables and Miracles of Jesus, Hymns, and parallels between the Old and New Testaments. The options never seem to cease. Go tell it on the mountain.

## Amen

You might think the interface of such a program is boring and simply text-

laden, but Accordance is mightily interactive, and therefore fun to use. Plus, it will indeed enhance your study of the scriptures. Don't forget to refer to the on-screen tutorial for help and ideas during your journey. **MHJ**

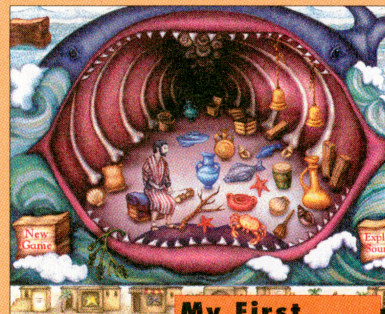
## Accordance Library 4 Bible Software

\$49 - \$229 (various editions)  
Accordance Bible Atlas, \$69  
OakTree Software, Inc., 877-339-5855  
www.oaksoft.com

# One For the Little Shepherds

**This title features** interactive Bible stories from the Old Testament, including God Makes the World and Daniel in the Lion's Den. Throughout the virtual turning pages of each story, children can opt to listen to a narrator, or turn narration off and read solo. Text accompanies pictures on each "page," for the feel of an actual story book. On some pages, pictures are partially missing, such as a particular animal on Noah's Ark. When children curiously click on the blank outline, they will be asked a question that when answered correctly, will result in the picture's appearance.

The title also offers games, such as



## My First Bible Stories

Musical Bones,  
wherein kids  
join Jonah  
inside the

\$20, DK Interactive  
Ages 3 - 7  
212-213-4800, www.dk.com

mouth of the great fish for a Simon Says-type game to sharpen memory skills. Perfect Pairs is a matching game set on Noah's Ark (where else!?), and Animal Homes is a fun test of smarts and keyboard agility, as players direct land, air, and water animals to their appropriate homes.

The kiddies can also print out pictures to color, stationery, invitations, cards, and bookmarks. And there's a quiz game for honing those comprehension skills after the youngsters read through the stories.

# check it out...

## Online Bible - Classic and Deluxe Editions

\$40 and \$90, respectively  
Answers in Genesis Ministries  
800-350-3232  
www.onlinebible.org

James Strong to help people with the original Greek and Hebrew words behind the English translations of the Bible. Highlight a word and click on Greek Strong's or Hebrew Strong's, and a tool window will appear with a translation of your selected word.

## Learn

For the sake of comparing and contrasting multiple translations of the Bible at once, Accordance follows a concordance



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## Inspiring Minds

**Inspiration Software**, developer of visual learning tools for grades K-12, announced its third annual Inspired Teacher Scholarships competition for educators who include visual learning techniques during their classroom lessons. The company believes that when ideas are presented in graphical ways, students will better organize and process the new information and become sharper thinkers. Twenty \$500 scholarships will be awarded to teachers several weeks after the March 1, 2001 deadline. Interested teachers

can find more information, as well as application materials, at Inspiration's Website.

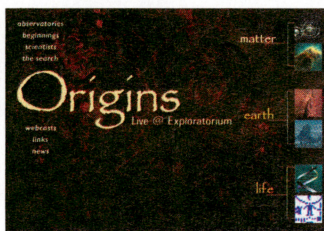
[www.inspiration.com](http://www.inspiration.com), 800-877-4292

## Read All About It

**CNN Interactive and Turner Learning** recently launched a news and educational Website with two distinct areas for students and teachers. The site hosts links, instructional materials, and classroom activities that are geared toward helping teachers integrate current events

into their lesson plans. The student section of the site has U.S. and world news appropriately tailored for kids, as well as features on popular topics such as entertainment and technology. Students will also find a homework research center, career and college resources, and forums to express opinions on newsworthy topics.

[www.cnnfyi.com](http://www.cnnfyi.com)



the current research efforts of scientists investigating the origins of matter, the universe, the earth, and life itself. Over the next three years, visitors will be able to interact with scientists via live Webcasts from six different locations, including the Hubble Space Telescope Institute in Baltimore (2001), and from the McMurdo Sound Research Station in Antarctica (January, 2002). Science teachers, students, and enthusiasts: Get online!

[www.exploratorium.edu/origins](http://www.exploratorium.edu/origins)

## Girl Friends

**Two new titles from** Knowledge Adventure are bound to make young girls giddy. Based on the *Dear America* book series, *Dear America: Friend to Friend* is designed to promote

self-discovery in girls between the ages of 8 and 12 as they communi-

cate with inspiring young women from famous moments in American history. The interactive CD-ROM allows players to make decisions that will affect the outcome of characters' stories, including Hattie Campbell, an early western settler dealing with the difficulties of setting up life in the Oregon frontier during the mid-19th century. The program also allows young ladies to create interactive diaries that can be decorated and shared with friends online. Simon & Schuster Interactive teams up with Knowledge Adventure to bring girls, ages 5 to 9, *Sabrina, The Animated Series: Magical Adventure*, a spin-off of the TV show, "Sabrina, The Teenage Witch." Players are cast as Sabrina in this arcade-style adventure game, which is set in the Greendale Mall, where Sabrina's nemesis, Gem Stone, is causing mayhem. Young girls will hone their critical thinking skills as they work through puzzles, trivia, and mazes to save the mall.

[www.knowledgeadventure.com](http://www.knowledgeadventure.com),  
800-542-4240



## What do you think?

We like to hear from our readers. Write us a quick note and tell us what you think of this month's issue!

[www.machome.com/decefeedback](http://www.machome.com/decefeedback)

## In the Beginning

**San Francisco's Exploratorium museum**, at once a fun house and educational center, hosts a vast array of hands-on science, art, and human perception exhibits. In November, the Exploratorium introduced *Origins*, a three-year odyssey that will tackle some fundamental questions, including "how did the universe begin?" The goal of *Origins* is to link visitors of the Exploratorium and its Website with



## Blue's Reading Time Activities

If I had a tail, it'd be wagging much like Blue's does whenever she's particularly enthusiastic. The deservedly popular pup from Nickelodeon's "Blue's Clues" television series has teamed up with Humongous once again for Blue's Reading Time Activities, an interactive learning adventure that sets your kids on a search for news items to put into The Big News Gazette.

Prompted by host Steve Burns, Blue visits with familiar (and some new!) friends for help with newspaper stories. Youngsters will adore these activities because they're rich with words accompanied by pictures, to help hone early reading skills, including spelling, comprehension, and writing.

As kids wander around the game's landscape, they'll intuitively explore by clicking. Most items are labeled —

roof, table, grass, etc. — and when clicked on, a kid-friendly voice speaks the word. This consistent reinforcement of words will ensure the development of your child's vocabulary.

Throughout the game, kids are encouraged to click on "hidden" word cards that will immediately show up in a story-developing game. The

more cards they find, the more words for creating sentences. They'll love the endless possibilities for expressing themselves in this activity.

Another sure-fire favorite is the action word game, wherein kids have to direct Blue along a path — jump, turn, climb, etc. — to retrieve a necessary item for one of her friends, such as a yo-yo for Red Kitten.

Alas, the title isn't without fault. When kids click on the library bulletin board, instead of finding another fun learning adventure, they'll see a scrolling list of the CD-ROM's credits (animators, producers, etc.) — too much of a tease, as kids won't appreciate this information as much as their parents will. And the word match card game may turn frustrating because the moves of opponents happen too quickly — it'll take the tykes awhile to figure out exactly how they're winning, or losing.

Despite these minor flaws, kids and their parents will wish they had tails to wag.

— Carolyn Blackburn



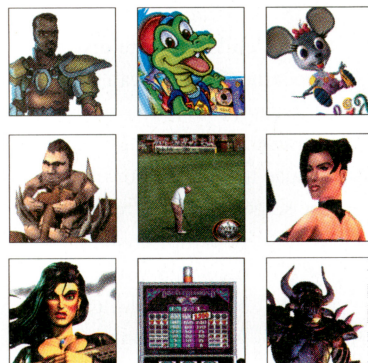
## Win the ELPH Digital Camera!

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**Your mission:** Name each of the game characters that appear on the cover of this issue along with the game they star in; or answer a trivia question.



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1. ELIGIBILITY: Open to legal US residents 18 years of age and older. Employees of MacHome and their immediate families are not eligible. Void where prohibited. 2. PRIZES: On or about January 5, 2001, random drawings will be conducted from among all eligible entries received by 12/31/00. The following prizes will be awarded: one (1) grand prize: an Elph Camera. No substitution or cash equivalent for the grand prize will be offered. Fifty (50) runners up prizes consisting of one software title provided by companies sponsoring the treasure hunt. Winner will be notified by phone. Odds of winning will be determined by the number of eligible entries received by the deadline of 12/31/00. 3. TO ENTER: Fill out the contest form located at [www.machome.com/fun](http://www.machome.com/fun) 4. Winners List: Winners' list will be published on the Contest page February 1, 2001. One entry per person.



## Jump Start 1st Grade

**Ahoy, mateys. If we do enough** chores at the Jump Start School, we can go on a treasure hunt. That's the premise of *Jump Start 1st Grade*, where the staff has plenty for kids to do — from sorting words in the cafeteria's alphabet soup to filling out hall passes.

The activities cover many skills: spelling, arithmetic, reading comprehension, science, and more. There are also art and music classrooms where children can paint, play instruments, compose music, or listen to songs.

The segments are most engaging when there's lots of interaction: putting toppings on pizza to learn fractions; scooping ingredients for a wacky recipe to learn measuring; putting coins in a vending machine to learn about money. Some other games, such as picking the answers to math problems from numbered pogo sticks, are really just thinly veiled multiple-choice quizzes — and not much fun at all.

Players (or parents) can choose from three levels for each activity, so the work gets harder as children advance. The software will even preset the level in each activity — if you can get your child to sit through the drab assessment test.

There are a few drawbacks. First, this software requires pretty exact mouse work, and that might frustrate some children. The dis-

appearing toolbox can be irritating, too. It's retrieved by dragging the mouse to the bottom of the screen, but it often

pops up, unwanted, when you're simply working in the screen's lower regions.

*Jump Start*

*1st Grade* comes

in a "deluxe 2-CD package" with *Jump Start Around the World*, and a video, *Why Did the Bus Stop. Around the World* teaches basic geography, as players travel the globe collecting souvenirs. The video features infectious songs and basic skills. The package isn't quite a buried treasure, but, at \$30, it's a good value that will keep youngsters busy for a long time.

— Sandy Amann John



**rating**

\$30, Knowledge Adventure  
Ages 5-7  
800-542-4240  
[www.knowledgeadventure.com](http://www.knowledgeadventure.com)

## Reading Blaster

**The opening theme song for** Knowledge Adventure's *Reading Blaster* boasts that players succeed by using their brains, not their brawn. Sounds like a wonderful lesson. Unfortunately, the game focuses too much on obstacle course challenges that hinge on how quickly children can move the arrow keys or click the mouse, rather than on fulfilling intellectual missions.

The game's premise is convoluted. Your child must uncover several nonsense-speaking Mumbler, who have stolen books from the planet of Islandia. Players earn clues — Mumbler body parts — by doing well in the game's activities, and eventually each Mumbler's identity is revealed. Players who find the right Mumbler are given a certificate congratulating them for finding one of Islandia's book thieves, which they can print out before going back to the game.

But the Mumbler may grow annoying after several rounds of the game. Their nonsense jabbering borders on poking fun at foreigners for the kind of cheap laugh that may make some parents uncomfortable. It's also cumbersome to get at the user's manual — players have to quit and restart to access the browser-based manual.

To the game's credit, there is a reading comprehension activity that has players read a book and then test their memory by answering questions. Another activity improves spelling by showing a word, and then asking the player to spell it three times, the last time without clues on the screen. There is also a center where children can, among other activities, build their own crossword puzzles.

The game succeeds when it attempts to teach without emphasis on keyboard and mouse gymnastics. It could use a few more activities that emphasize brains rather than manual dexterity.

— Howard Lovy



**rating**

\$30, Knowledge Adventure  
Ages 7-8  
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# 2001 Grolier Multimedia Encyclopedia - Deluxe Edition

**Encyclopedias have really evolved** with the growth of technology, personal computers, and the Internet. What once cost hundreds to thousands of dollars for heavy, space- and paper-consuming volumes that were obsolete before they shipped, (and left folks with years of payments), is now fairly inexpensive, takes up the space of a CD, and is reasonably up-to-date for consumers with Internet access. The new 2001 Grolier's Multimedia Encyclopedia - Deluxe Edition (GME2001) has lots of multimedia, is highly interactive, and includes a number of resources to help school children with everything from research papers on American authors to reports on the country of Uzbekistan, to Spanish homework. As with all things, however, even this glitzy interactive multimedia encyclopedia has its rough edges.

Advertised and well-suited for grades 3 and up, GME2001 is a 2-CD set that includes more than 60,000 articles (online and on disc), a Research Center with 140 research starters, a Related Media Gallery, a Science Q&A, a thesaurus, a Spanish dictionary and a 200,000-word English dictionary, 137 useful Timelines and Chronologies, 1,200 wonderful maps, 151 panoramas, and more than 15,000 images. With Internet connectivity, there's one-click access to more than 50,000 Web links and Online Resources, plus hundreds of monthly article updates through Encyclopedia Americana Online, Grolier Multimedia Encyclopedia Online, The New Book of Knowledge Online, and The New Book of Popular Science Online.

The impressive quantity of information they were able to pack onto two CDs is diminished somewhat by the frustration and awkwardness of using two CDs. For example, while reading an article about Amelia Earhart, I clicked on something that, without warning, ejected the CD, sending the message to insert the other CD. This constant swapping between two CDs becomes frustratingly disruptive when doing research. I was reminded of early computers, when switching between

floppy disks was standard. And this drives me nuts!

The most important feature in a school or home encyclopedia is the quality of the content, not just the quantity of content and graphics. GME2001's information is ample and adequate, but is, in some cases, outdated or obsolete. A search on "educational technology" found "educational television" and "vocational education" as the most recent topics. A search on "technology" turned up "computers in education" by pure accident. Interestingly, the only names listed under "technology" were Vannevar Bush, Bill Gates, Herman Hollerith, Grace Murray Hopper, and John von Neumann. I had to look for Steve Jobs and Steve Wozniak by name, and the most recent information on them was about five years out of date. A search for Apple Computers identified the company as "still struggling," and provided no Internet link. Bill Gates, in comparison, is listed under "technology" with up-to-date information including his multi-millionaire status, and several Internet links. So, as with most encyclopedias, a discriminating eye is essential.

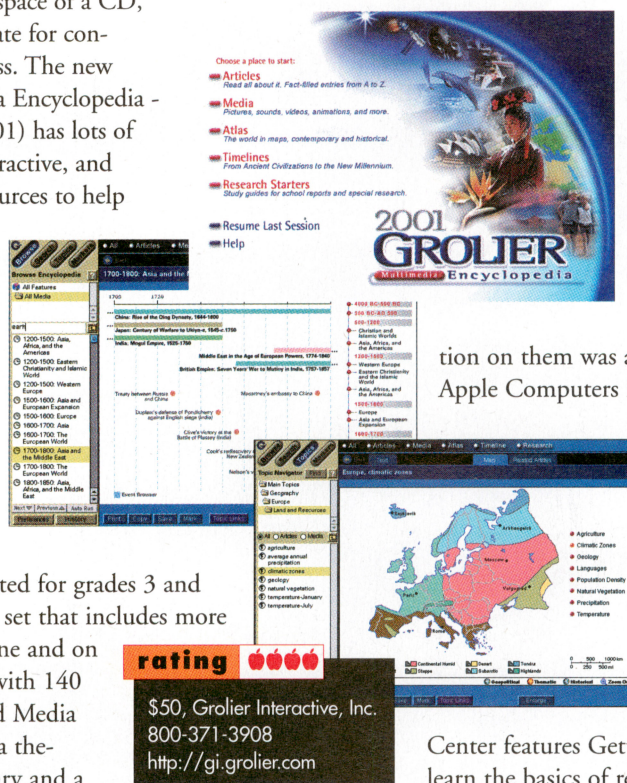
Two exceptional attributes of GME2001 are its Research Center and Science Q&A. The Research

Center features Getting Started, a section to help students learn the basics of researching and writing a paper, and 140 Research Starters to give students a jump-start on research topics. Science Q&A — a list of questions broken down into about a dozen topic areas — comes from *The New York Times*. You can search under specific topics or under the list of All Questions. The answers are provided with hot links to the encyclopedia.

The feature parents and teachers will appreciate is the Grolier Internet Index's hundreds of thousands of links to the World Wide Web, each checked and rechecked regularly by Grolier's staff to be sure it remains age-appropriate, current, accurate, and relevant.

As encyclopedias go, GME2001 is highly interactive, has a robust quantity of content material, and won't take up any space at all on your bookshelf. For the price, it's an excellent choice for families with young children, and for use in elementary or middle schools.

— Cathy Parise



**rating** ★★★★★

\$50, Grolier Interactive, Inc.  
800-371-3908  
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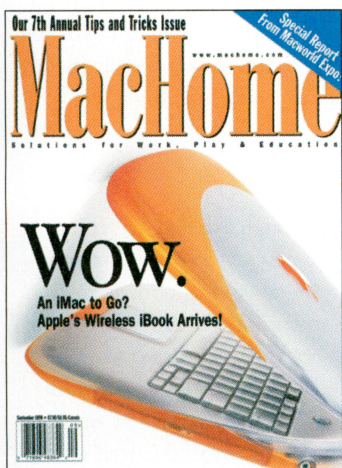
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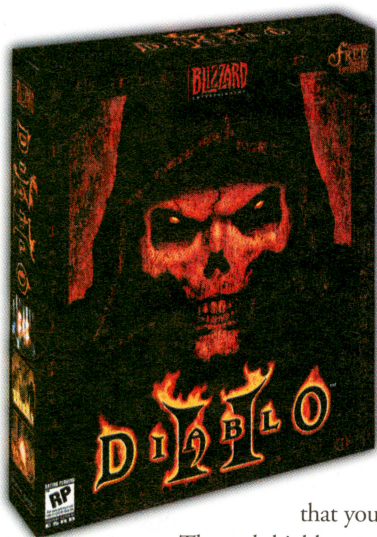
[www.machome.com](http://www.machome.com)



# Top Tips for Tip-Top Titles

## Super Secrets for Great Games

**Games are tough. If they weren't,** you wouldn't play them. If you're a beginner, the difficulty of a game can determine how long you'll be playing it. If you're an old pro, it can determine how far you'll throw the controller.



You just can't seem to kill that zombie at the end of the hall, or make that final jump across the canyon, or find that missing key needed to open an exit. Have no fear: Whether you're a complete neophyte or a scarred old veteran, we've got tips for some of *MacHome's* favorite games of the past year.

### Diablo II

*Diablo II* is a highly addictive medieval role-playing game

that you'll never play the same way twice.

Through highly complex programming know-how, Blizzard Entertainment has managed to create a game that randomly generates every level, monster, sword, and shield.

### Beginner Tips:

The first and most important thing you must do is choose your character. It's a good idea for beginners to choose the Barbarian because he's very simple to learn and has a relatively easy go of it for the first act of the game. After you've been running around in the wild killing monsters for awhile, you'll likely go up an experience level. This means your character has gotten smarter as a result of his or her exploits. When you do go up a level, you'll get extra points to put into your character's attributes (strength, energy, etc.) and one point to put into his or her skills. Here's what to do with those skill points.

If you chose to play a Barbarian, you should invest in your weapon of choice. Swords and Maces are quite handy,

and Axes do massive amounts of damage, but they're big and hard to use if you're in a brawl. Sorceresses should invest in Ice spells. They are more powerful than Fire or Lightning spells, and fewer enemies are immune to Ice. Necromancers should invest in Exploding Corpse early on because it's a terrific spell. Skeletons are useful, but worthless later in the game. Paladins should invest heavily in Prayer, and then get Thorns. Amazons should get Ice Arrows as soon as possible. Exploding Arrows are nice too.

### Advanced Tips:

Once you've gotten yourself through the first act, things get a bit more difficult. In the desert, you'll want to use Ice spells. Any time you can freeze your opponent you'll have a much better chance of winning. Unfortunately, not everyone can use ice magic. For those who can't — the Barbarian, Necromancer, and Paladin — it's a good idea to pump specific skills. Since the Barbarian is low on magical healing, Find Potion is a fabulously underrated skill he can use to reliably find health in the wild. One or two skill points in Find Potion should be enough. Find Item, however, is pointless. Do not invest in it.

The Necromancer can really rack up some quality kills with Skeletal Mages. Combined with Bone Spear and a nice Golem, the Necromancer can rain down death from afar with ease. Be sure to cast Raise Skeletal Mage over and over until you get one that fires the appropriate element for a situation. A fire-throwing Skeletal Mage is kind of pointless when you're fighting demons from hell, after all.

Finally, the Paladin should focus his skills on Thorns. It's easily his most powerful asset. Toward the end of the game, Thorns will do some amazing amounts of damage to your foes. It's also an excellent skill for online play.

[www.blizzard.com](http://www.blizzard.com)

By Alex Handy



## Clan Lord

*Clan Lord* is definitely the friendliest game on the Internet. In this 1,000 (and counting) player game from Delta Tao, your adventure takes you all over a large island to fight monsters and make new friends.

### Beginner Tips:

When you create a character, you will be asked to choose a race, such as Elf or Human, but you don't have to choose immediately — you can adventure around the world incognito. This may be a good idea for the beginning player. Wander around and meet some people first. Ask them about different races and what race they recommend (of course, most of them will recommend their own). Once you've chosen wisely, head back to town hall and make it official.

DO NOT waste any of your money on clothes, shoes, tattoos, and the like, until you've racked up many hours of gameplay. They're too expensive to waste money on early in the game. Save your dough and invest in a short sword.

### Advanced Tips:

As soon as you get 800 gold, head to Darshok Island. You'll probably want someone who knows the way to guide you. Ask someone in Puddlby to accompany you. Once on Darshok Island, you need to find your way to the Darshok camp. There's a man there who will sell you an axe for 800 gold. It may sound like a lot of money, but the axe is definitely worth it.

[www.clanlord.com](http://www.clanlord.com)

## The Sims

Some would say that *The Sims* is too much like everyday life. Others would say it's like having a dollhouse full of pet people. We would say that

this gem from Maxis and Aspyr is one of the greatest games ever made.

### Beginner Tips:

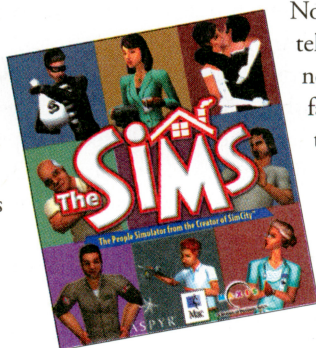
Start small. It's much easier to care for and feed one or two Sims. You don't need to make a family of eight to have a happy and productive home. Once your Sims are settled into their new surroundings, you've got to pick up the newspaper and start looking for a job. You don't have to take the first available job, but rather wait a few days to find the job you really want. And don't forget that once you get that job, you'll probably need a number of friends in order to get a promotion (especially if you choose the politics job track). Stay on good terms with your neighbors. And finally, there are two things you should never skimp on: Your bed and your toilet. Always buy the best you can. (Good advice for real life as well.) If you don't get a nice bed, your Sims will wake up tired and grumpy. If you get a sub-standard toilet, you'll have a lot of messy clean-ups on your hands.

### Advanced Tips:

Your Sims need friends. Unfortunately, you've probably noticed that the only friends they have are Bob Newbie and Bella Goth. Wouldn't it be nice to introduce them to someone more pleasant? Here's how. Create a new family with eight people. Design them for optimum friendship potential (i.e., don't make them mean or messy) and move them into an empty lot.

Now buy them a table and a telephone. Voila! You don't need to maintain this new family at all, simply use them as friends for all of your other Sims. Go to your main house and have your primary Sim family give the new family a call. Invite them over for tea.

Once you've called them over, you can (if you so desire) torture the heck out of them. Hedge mazes are particularly effective at driving neighbors insane.



Failing that, try walling them into the bathroom.

[www.thesims.com](http://www.thesims.com)

## Unreal Tournament

This is the fastest, most exciting game on the Internet. Get online and duke it out with thousands of other players from all over the world. The action is frantic and the graphics are eye-popping. If you're an action buff, look no further.

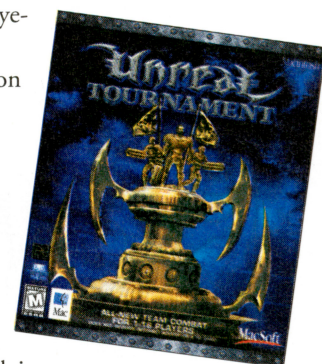
### Beginner Tips:

Sorry, no real tips for this game, but here's some advice.

If you don't practice, you're going to lose online. Practice, practice, practice. Don't get frustrated: Everyone has to start somewhere. Practice by yourself with the bots, and set their skill levels low at first.

### Advanced Tips:

Get that redeemer. It's an easy way to rack up kills. Once you've got that, get the shield belt. It's the key to a long-winded killing spree. Since most of the game is based on skill with the mouse and keyboard, the only other thing we can suggest (again) is to practice. Oh, and if you get tired of playing the same old levels, check out [www.planetunreal.com](http://www.planetunreal.com). There are some great maps there, and, best of all, you can download Strike Force, the best



## did you know...

*Unreal Tournament* fans have been hard at work making new maps, games, and other fun stuff. You can even get a version of *Tetris* to play inside *Unreal Tournament*! Head to [planetunreal.com](http://planetunreal.com) for more info.

[www.planetunreal.com](http://www.planetunreal.com)



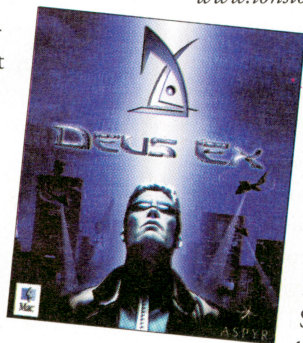
*Unreal Tournament* add-on available.  
[www.unrealtournament.com](http://www.unrealtournament.com)

## Deus Ex

This is the ultimate espionage game. Slink around in the shadows and remember that everyone is out to get you. This might have something to do with the fact that you're a super-secret, nanotechnologically-enhanced special agent in the middle of a crumbling world dominated by the Illuminati. Or maybe not.

### Beginner Tips:

The first level is quite possibly the hardest in the game. The combination of your inexperience with the game and the difficulty of playing without any upgrades or bonus abilities can make for some tough going on Liberty Island. Stick with it. We had a lot of trouble with this level, too. One thing that will help is to increase your rifle skill at the start of the game. If you have the skill points, raise your rifle skill twice, and then select the sniper rifle on the dock (never take the crossbow). You'll have a



Jock, you'll probably have a tough time figuring out how to get the hanger doors to open so Jock can fly you out. The key you need is in a locker. We won't say which locker: Just knowing it's in one should be a big help. Good luck, and remember, everyone in the game is out to get you. Be paranoid.

[www.ionstorm.com](http://www.ionstorm.com)

## Ferazel's Wand

Ferazel's warm home under the ground of Teraknorn has been invaded by nogoodniks. Ferazel must use his powerful magic and his wits to save his friends and his home from evil in Ambrosia Software's biggest and most beautiful game to date.

Instead of the standard tips here, we've decided to tell you about an ultra-super-duper secret level hidden in the world of Teraknorn. East of Nerogazel's grave is a wall that you can fireball. It leads to a room that is seemingly unimportant; you can't fireball the wall, but you can blast it with fire seeds. Through that wall is a black space that looks a bit different from the surrounding background — it's a secret door. Press "up" to enter the door, and you will emerge through another door. Go west until you drop through the floor (there is a large rock on the foreground obscuring this exit). If you exit this way, you will appear at the secret level called Purple Haze, which has

appearances by Ben Spees, Andrew Welch, and Jason Whong (the folks responsible for this hideously addictive game), among others. Oh, and there's a ton of power-ups here as well.

[www.ferazel.com](http://www.ferazel.com)

## Heroes of Might and Magic 3

Possibly one of the best strategy games around, 3DO's *Heroes of Might and Magic III* is a fabulous brain-cruncher. Gather an army of fantastic creatures (unicorns, dwarves, dragons) and take

them into battle for the fate of the lands. Combat plays out like a game of chess, so this is a game even the slow of finger can play.

### Beginner Tips:

At the start of the game, avoid combat for the first few turns. Send your hero out to gather the treasure and supplies that lay around the map. After you've saved enough money to buy some monsters in your home town, bring your hero back, outfit him or her with a bigger army, and then head out to find glory on the battlefield.

Make sure your towns are protected. Don't send every monster you have traipsing off to battle just because your hero has some empty slots for more armies. Especially Skeletons. They are only worthwhile if you have upwards of 100 of them in a single group. Even with 100 plus, you'll lose a large portion of them if they get attacked. So using your skeletons as a sort of kamikaze army is much more effective in towns, where the stakes of losing a battle are much higher.

### Advanced Tips:

If you want to defeat enemy heroes, be sure to raise your hero's level as quickly as possible. If you come across treasure and you have the option of taking gold or experience points, always take the experience. Always. To make up for that lost gold, be sure to build a castle in every town. It'll bring you lots of money each turn.

[www.mightandmagic.com](http://www.mightandmagic.com)

## Game Over

With a little bit of elbow grease and a touch of patience, you should be able to get by any obstacle you come across in your gaming adventures. Keep in mind that most games are meant to be challenging. A little practice goes a long way. Once you get past the first few levels of a game, you'll have acquired the skills you need to finish. Just don't get too frustrated: While throwing your controller may relieve tension, it's not too good for your Mac. **MHJ**

tell us what you think!

We look forward to hearing from our readers. Write us a quick note and tell us what you think of this month's issue! Visit us at:

[www.machome.com/decfeedback](http://www.machome.com/decfeedback)

much easier go of it on the island. Be patient, and stay in the shadows.

### Advanced Tips:

Be sure to pump computer skills whenever you get enough skill points. It'll save you a lot of headaches. With a high hacking skill, you can break into any computer and turn off security cameras, which is a very useful thing indeed.

Next to the first level, there's only one other spot in the game that can cause major headaches. In Hong Kong, after you've been locked into the hanger with



"Without a doubt, Baldur's Gate is the best RPG ever for Macintosh, and may very well be the Mac's top game of 2000." — Jay Swartzfeger  
MACCENTRAL

"An incredible role-playing game...A great plot, strong graphics and an incredibly cool combat system ..." — Pat Miller  
MACGAMER'S LEDGE

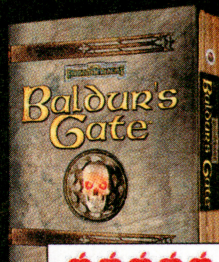
"Excellent engine, great graphics, and meticulous attention to detail... thoroughly addictive and fun..." — John Lee  
MACHOME JOURNAL

"To put it simply, this game is role playing the way it should be-- involving, enlightening and exciting." — Samantha Craggs  
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By Zack Stern

# The Return of MacPlay

**In a Phoenix-like move,** the original top Mac game publisher is back. This time the guard has changed, creating a new MacPlay to issue the renaissance of Mac gaming.

## Flashback

In 1993, MacPlay was created to bring popular titles to the Macintosh from the PC publisher, Interplay. Releasing hits like *Descent*, *Out of This World*, and *Wolfenstein 3D*, MacPlay became the first company to routinely convert top-quality PC games to the Mac. But after thriving for several years, MacPlay felt the fallout of the mid '90s Macintosh slump, as retail shelf space dwindled. Then in 1998, MacPlay shut down operations for an indefinite time, posting a letter of regret on its Website that remained for two years.

## Conquest of the New World

Now the company formerly known as United Developers has bought the "MacPlay" name to make a stand for Mac gaming. Under the terms of the deal, United Developers will now be known as MacPlay, although there is no longer an absolute affiliation with Interplay.

The new MacPlay regime thinks it has the answers to profit where other companies have treaded water.

"MacPlay to me defines Mac gaming," explained Ron Dimant, the new master of the MacPlay kingdom. It will become a complete "turnkey solution to developers and publishers for getting their [PC] games on the Mac."

PC companies typically don't want to invest the time and effort to release games for the Mac. MacPlay intends to succeed by delivering these PC games with the goal that each will sell reasonably well, keeping MacPlay afloat without having to bank on blockbusters. PC game publishers will be happy to make a small profit from the license without having direct involvement in the Mac market.

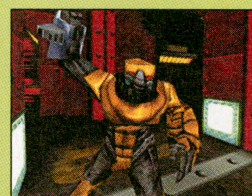
Instead of forging an allegiance with a single PC publisher, MacPlay will remain independently mobile to bring many games from different PC publishers to the Mac. MacPlay plans to release three games by the end of this year, and six or more per year thereafter. Game-on.

[www.macplay.com](http://www.macplay.com), 214-855-5955

# Out-of-This-World Hits

**The first batch of** ultra-hot games in MacPlay's porting pipes will start to arrive in late 2000.

**Sin** This first-person shooter with realistic damage and gratuitous death animations, takes you on a rampage against Elexis Sinclair and the forces of evil. When you finish this title, the included expansion pack, *Wages of Sin*, will give you more weapons, enemies, and scenarios.



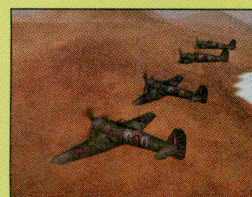
## Majesty: The Fantasy Kingdom Sim

Huzzah for this medieval strategy game in which you control your townspeople by constructing buildings and offering rewards.

Want to destroy an enemy castle? A bounty will motivate your citizens.

## Fighter Squadron: The Screamin' Demons over Europe

Take to the skies in this painstakingly realistic recreation of World War II aviation. This combat flight sim lets you choose between ten authentic WWII fighters and bombers in your effort to win the war.

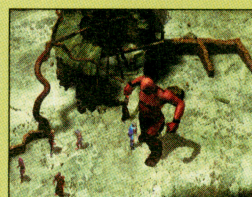


## Baldur's Gate II: Shadows of Amn

This second iteration of role-playing game, *Baldur's Gate*, tweaks and expands the Advanced Dungeons and Dragons Second Edition world.

Now you've got to contend with over 120 flavors of monsters with improved intelligence in an epic, 4 CD, 400 hour, 3D adventure.

**Ikwind Dale** This role-playing game takes you back to the Forgotten Realms, the same setting as the *Baldur's Gate* games. Follow new quests in this expansive D&D-based world.



## Sacrifice

In a 3D world, this real-time strategy game mixes elements of fantasy, action, and role-playing, dropping you into a



battle-royale for the planet. You're a wizard that enlists the help of one of the gods of life, earth, air, fire, or death. Use the skills and powers of your chosen god to claim territory in its name.

### Giants: Citizen Kabuto

*Giants* is one of the most frenetic, kinetic, action games to hit PCs. In another vie-for-the-planet plot, this title rises above the others because of its quirky humor and XXL size. As one of three species duking it out in this beautiful, third-person, 3D landscape, you'll have to develop the attitude and moves to crush your foes. What we're most anticipating: multiplayer matches of up to 10 human opponents with ground-shaking results.



### Starfleet Command II: Empires at War

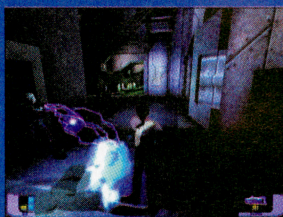
For Trekkies and Trekkers, there'll be nothing quite like

yelling Klingon taunts while piloting your warship in this 'Trek, tactical starship simulation. Choose from eight species' various ships, then take to the bridge. Also, a persistent world, online multiplayer element will give the game limitless possibilities.

## Beam Me Up

Another "Star Trek" title, this one from Simon & Schuster Interactive, is set to hit the shelves in January. *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine – The Fallen* is a 3D action/adventure game that will provide fans of the "Deep Space Nine" series the first opportunity to see (and hear) their favorite characters in an original storyline since the show ended its run in 1999.

[www.ds9thefallen.com](http://www.ds9thefallen.com)



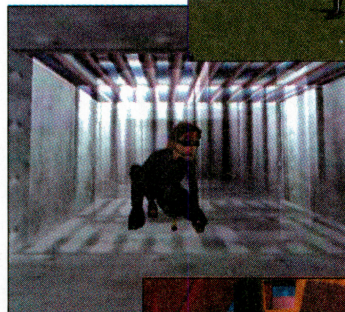
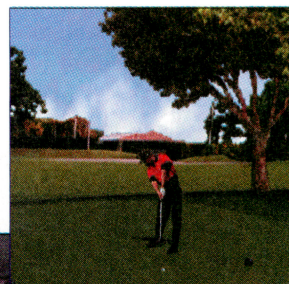
## Gang of Games

Aspyr Media, game-churning machine, announced three more titles at Mac Expo in Paris (September 2000). Due out by the end of the year is *The Sims: Livin' Large*, an expansion pack that will enhance gameplay by adding new

**By Carolyn Blackburn**

objects, characters, architecture, and situations to the wildly popular game. Also look for the highly anticipated racing title, *Need for Speed: Porsche Unleashed* — this game allows players to race various Porsche models from a collection that spans the manufacturer's 50-year history. And the sci-fi 3D first-person shooter, *Star Trek Voyager: Elite Force*, the first game based on the "Star Trek Voyager" universe, hurls players into combat against Borg and other familiar (and some unfamiliar) enemies.

At the first ever Aspyr World (October 2000), yet another three titles were unveiled, and are expected to ship during the first quarter of 2001. Aspyr teams up with LucasArts to bring Guybrush Threepwood and accompanying monkeys back for their fourth adventure, *Escape from Monkey Island*. Complete with new 3D graphics, puzzles, jokes, and adventure, it promises to be a rollicking good time. For those who prefer a different kind of good time, one that involves perfecting that golf swing, look for *Tiger Woods PGA Tour Golf 2001*, which features 20 PGA tour courses and



11 pros, including Justin Leonard. Lastly, *Tomb Raider: Chronicles* delivers Lara Croft to your Mac once again. This time, players can flashback to four separate episodes in Lara's career for new adventures in Rome and inside a German U-Boat, among others. News like this comes around once in a, oh, millennium.

[www.aspyr.com](http://www.aspyr.com), 888-212-7797

## Express Yourself

If you've ever longed for a place to wax eloquent about your favorite game, check out the new Mac Gamers Review Website. The site allows visitors to submit reviews on a variety of popular Mac games. Or just stop by to read what your peers are saying about titles before you purchase and embark on your next game adventure.

[www.macgamersreview.com](http://www.macgamersreview.com)



## Mixman DJ Megamix

If you're a fan of techno/electronic music, Mixman is a fun music toy that should make you sit up and take notice. Mixman DJ Megamix is the second installment in the Mixman series of music generation programs. Made for the casual musician, Mixman allows users to create songs by combining musical loops and adjusting sounds to sync with various beats. In Mixman DJ Megamix, those loops and beats come to us from various big name electronica bands (Skinny Puppy, Heaven 17, and The Freestylers, to name a few). This is, unfortunately, one of the weaknesses of this new Mixman: The previous installment came with some decidedly un-electronica musical clips; this version has only techno/trance/hip-hop/house clips.

But if electronica's your thing, this is your program. The interface is in the form of two turntables, each with eight slots for music loops. By using the keyboard you can toggle in each loop at will. This allows for some vaguely DJ Jazzy Jeff-sounding combinations, but

mostly it lends itself to creating some simple and repetitive songs. The loops and riffs

included are top notch and some are downright rump-shaking. But for the most part, DJ Megamix waters down the much better selection of loops found in the original Mixman. There are no more piano solos or six-string guitar clips to play with, which is definitely a shame for those who might enjoy playing with Mixman, but are turned off by the decidedly genre-biased music it creates.

If you're intrigued by the idea of making music with Mixman DJ Megamix, but dislike techno music, grab a copy of the original Mixman. It's cheaper, has some more varied riffs, and it uses the same interface.

— Alex Handy



rating 

\$30

Mixman Technologies  
www.mixman.com

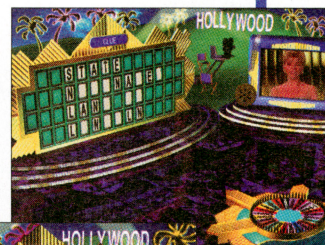
## Wheel of Fortune

Vanna White's turning over letters on a Mac near you. She's dressed to the nines, and ready to lead players through an authentic "Wheel of Fortune" experience, minus tangible prizes and Pat Sajak. With over 2,000 puzzles — including those we've become familiar with from the "Wheel of Fortune" television game show, such as Fill In the Blank, Fictional Character, Things, Landmark — MacSoft's latest puts you in the contestant's seat to solve word mysteries to your heart's content.

This title comes complete with all the bells and whistles of the televised show. "Wheel of Fortune" music is in place, as are audience responses, including "oohs" and "ahhs," and applause. The wheel looks the same, too — Bankrupt, Lose Turn, and Free Spin, are all in tow to either help or foil your efforts. Before gameplay begins, players choose the length of the round they'd like to play, timer speed (which determines how long you have to Buy a Vowel, Solve the Puzzle, or Spin the Wheel), and video input, which determines how much you'll see of Vanna. When video is on, you'll see a whole lot of her, and when it's off, well, Vanna vanishes. If you prefer retrieving non-cash prizes, such as trips and rare stamp collections, leave the video on; otherwise your prize earnings will come to you in the form of an inflated cash award. (Wouldn't you rather win a fantasy trip to Acapulco?)

Unfortunately, though accuracy is intact, the interface is uninteresting — even with different backgrounds, such as Wild West and Paris, players are certain to tire of their virtual surroundings. Also, they might find it disappointing that they have no wheel control — an option for strength of wheel spin would have been a welcome asset. But overall, this title's sure to please fans who want straightforward "Wheel of Fortune" fun. Don't be surprised if you start chanting, "big money, big money!" at your computer screen.

— Carolyn Blackburn



\$30

MacSoft  
800-229-2714  
www.wizardworks.com/macsoft



# Sin

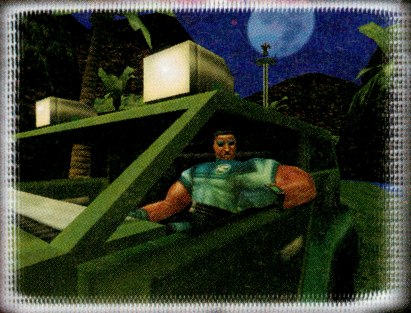
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Ryan S. Adams, MacGamer's Ledge



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www.macplay.com



## Star Trek Starship Creator: WARP II

**Ah, great ideas. They can** strike gold. Or they can fall flat. Here's a brilliant idea that never quite manages to rise above mediocrity.

*Star Trek Starship Creator: Warp II* isn't really a game. It's a unique simulation in which you can build your own

Federation starship, actually design and construct the warship of your dreams.

You begin with one of seven basic vessel types — Intrepid, Sovereign, Galaxy, Defiant, Constitution, Akira, or even a Klingon Bird of Prey.

Then you modify your hull, command saucer, and warp-drive nacelles; pick a

crew, stock it with weapons, shuttle craft, and other necessities. Then you're ready to start flying your own ship through 34 pre-scripted missions.

And to top that, if you buy a copy of Simon & Schuster's new *Star Trek Deep Space Nine*:

*Dominion Wars*, you can import your spaceship into the game and fly tactical combat in your very own baby.

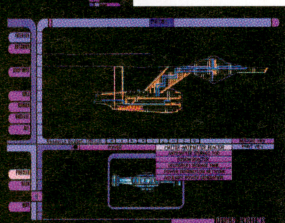
Sounds fantastic, right? So what went wrong?

For one thing, there's little latitude in design. You're confined to a few pre-selected templates that you drag onto your ship. It may change the shape, but it doesn't seem to affect performance. Then there are the missions. Once you launch your ship, that's it. You become a spectator while the ship runs itself.

Most frustrating are the bugs. I tested the title on both a G3 and a StarMax 3000 (an old Mac clone), and both kept shutting down in mid-process. In fact, it took several tries to make a ship spaceworthy enough for missions.

It's a neat idea, but flawed. You may still want to see your own ship in *Dominion Wars*, but unless you're an avid "Star Trek" fan, this is one you may prefer to avoid.

— John Lee



rating 

\$30

Simon & Schuster

888-793-9972

[www.simonandschuster.com](http://www.simonandschuster.com)

## Asteroids

**If you can slog through** the interface, this updated version of *Asteroids*, the retro classic, will entertain original fans and new players alike.

You play, essentially, a janitor with interstellar jurisdiction, and your duty is to clean up the asteroids that pose a threat to space travel. Pilot your spaceship from a side-view perspective and start firing — shoot big asteroids into small chunks, and then atomize the fragments.

To keep gamers happy, there are special weapons to augment your on-board canon.

Load an "Armageddon" to fire a quick, spiraling burst, or activate a "Gun Satellite" to retrieve an autonomous weapon

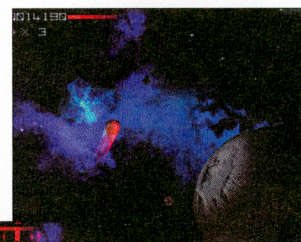
that automatically fires at threats. You'll find that destroying space rocks with excessive force is quite enjoyable.

The graphics work well and stay original by drawing objects in 3D even though they only move in two dimensions. Spinning asteroids and enemies float across lush space-like backgrounds, and the explosions look great.

*Asteroids* has some faults, though. All menus must be navigated with the arrow keys, and the screens don't function as expected. For example, the game doesn't remember the sound settings from previous play, forcing you to reset them each time you launch the application. Also, on an iBook, multiplayer mode only allows one player to pilot a ship — pushing movement keys had no effect for a second player. A desktop machine, or an iBook with an external keyboard, will work fine. These difficulties keep *Asteroids* from feeling polished.

This title delivers good gameplay even though the interface is weak. When *Asteroids* is working, elements like simultaneous, multiplayer rock-smashing, and an over-the-top arsenal give the game a hook in a crowded market.

— Zack Stern



rating 

\$30

MacSoft

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[www.wizardworks.com/macsoft](http://www.wizardworks.com/macsoft)



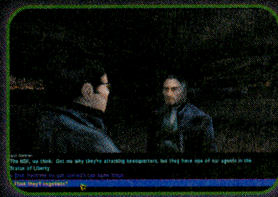
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# Create a ColorSync Profile

*Ensure that color is consistent on your display*

**Are you seeing the same colors as** everyone else? Variances in manufacturing often lead to variances in color between displays. You can ensure the color of your iMac or iBook display is consistent by creating a unique profile with Apple's ColorSync color management software.

Open your Monitors control panel. Once it loads, you will see three buttons at the top of the window: Monitor, Geometry, and Color. Click the Color button, and the window resizes to display a list of ColorSync profiles. Near the bottom, you will find a button called Calibrate... Press this button to open ColorSync's Monitors Calibration Assistant.

You're now ready to set your iMac's or iBook's brightness, contrast, gamma and white point. On the introduction page, you will see four differently colored Mac OS logos. Immediately below the graphic is an option called Expert Mode. Check this option and click the right arrow in the lower corner to begin.

The first preference to set is contrast, and it's a no-brainer. Apple recommends that you set contrast to maximum at all times, so simply double-check that the contrast control is slid all the way to the right. The second preference you

tackle is brightness, and it's a bit trickier to set. You want to drag the brightness slider so that the gray oval is barely visible

within the black square. Too much brightness, and you'll see a gray rectangle at the right; too little brightness, and you won't see the oval at all. Once you're happy with your selections, click the right arrow to continue.

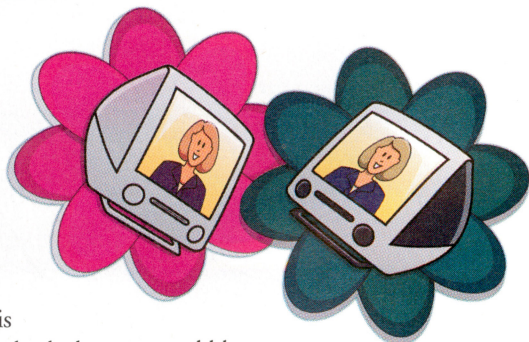
Next on the list is gamma, and it's a tough one. Gamma determines how the three primary colors are balanced together in conjunction with the current brightness and contrast settings. You're presented with three blocks of color, each one containing an image of the Apple logo. The task is to adjust each color's gamma so that the Apple fades into the background. Step three feet back from your computer and look at the red block. Now squint your eyes so that your vision is somewhat blurred. (Near-sighted folks, like myself, can just remove their glasses!) Study the color of the Apple carefully. If it appears too bright or too dark, adjust

the slider until the Apple blends into the background. Repeat this process for both the green and blue blocks, and click the right arrow to advance.

You must now set the target gamma. This part is breeze, thankfully. Under normal circumstances, you should choose Mac Standard (1.8). Now, if you happen to prefer that darks be somewhat darker, you can slide the control to the right just a tad. Don't go too far, though, or every image on your display will seem dark and over-colored. Once you're done, click the right arrow to continue.

The last task is to determine the white point. In most cases, you want to move the white point control all the way to the right to give you the brightest, cleanest white possible. Moving the slider to the left gives the display an increasingly orange cast.

Click the right arrow to finish up. Give your profile a name and press return, and you're all done! **MHJ**



**By Chris McVeigh**

## Tell us what you think!

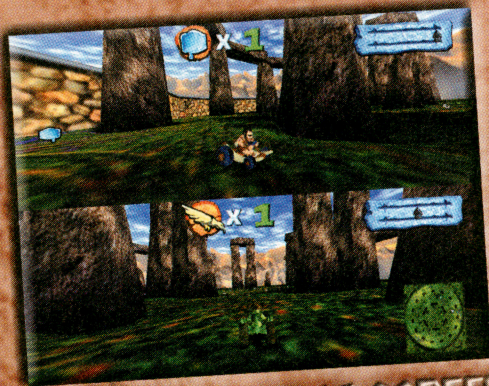
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# Mac Hearts Game, Web Page Printing, Extension Conflicts, Resolution Solutions

**Q** We used to have Compaq Presario, which had a game called Hearts. We now have a PowerBook G3, and cannot seem to find this game anywhere. Do you know where we can get it?

—Jean Loew



**A** As a matter of fact, I do! You can download Hearts Deluxe from Freeverse Software at [www.freeverse.com](http://www.freeverse.com). The game is shareware, so if you like it, you'll have to pay \$19.95. It will work for 30 days, however, so you can give it a test run to make sure it's what you're seeking.

**By Chris McVeigh**

**Q** I have a Power Macintosh G3 and I use System 9.0. I recently bought a ViewSonic EF70 monitor. After connecting the monitor, I found that the screen image is very small and hard to see and read. For example, the fonts appear smaller than 9 point, and when I open a new window, it only covers about a third of the screen. I constantly must adjust the window size. What can I do to make the size of everything larger so I can see it more easily?

—Thomas Sinclair

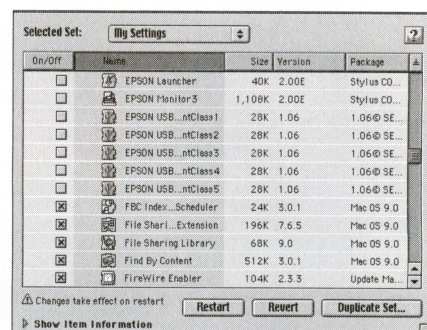
**A** The reason the image on your new monitor seems so small is because it is actually displaying the interface at a higher resolution than your old monitor. So, you're actually seeing a lot more information than before—albeit at a much smaller size. Thankfully, you should be able to return to your old resolution without too much fuss. Locate the Control Strip at the bottom of the display, and extend it. You should see an icon that looks like the face of a monitor containing a checker board pattern. Clicking this icon brings up a list of selectable monitor resolutions. I'd guess you were accustomed to either 640x480 or 800x600, so give each resolution a try to see which suits you best.

**Q** I own an iMac (333MHz) and I recently upgraded it from 8.6 to 9.0.4. Now, most of the time, the system will not shut down or restart properly! I select Shut Down from the Special menu and the system starts to shut down, but then it freezes. So I have to use a paper clip to restart the computer. I've tried rebuilding the desktop and zapping the PRAM, and neither helped. I should note that I have an Epson 740i printer, Umax Astra 2200u scanner and Iomega Zip drive hooked to the computer. Can you help me?

—John Gelso

**A** Your problem is very familiar to me. My own iMac DV has had the very same problem since I installed Mac OS 9.0.4 with an Epson printer

and Umax Astra scanner. I've been able to troubleshoot the problem, with disappointing results. It appears that the mixture of the Epson and Astra drivers and Mac OS 9.0.4 cause the shut down freeze. To verify this, hold the space bar down as you restart your iMac. Once the Extensions Manager appears, uncheck the Astra USB drivers, all the Epson items and the lone scanner driver. Now, test drive your iMac and attempt to shut it down. Assuming it doesn't crash, restart and attempt to shut it down a few more times. If you're successful, your ailment was probably this driver conflict. Go back to the Extensions Manager,



reactivate the Epson drivers, restart the computer and attempt to shut it down once more. If it crashes, you can blame the problem on the Epson drivers. If it doesn't, you'll know that the Astra drivers are at fault. Check both the Umax and Epson Websites for new driver software. At press time, however, the problem lingered in my iMac and no new updates were available. You may have to work around the problem by temporarily turning off one set of dri-



vers, reloading them only when required.

**Q** I am a new Mac user and I don't know how to configure Internet Explorer 5 to print background images. On my old PC, all I did was access the control panel and then Internet options, where I selected the option. How would I do this on the Mac?

— Raymond Macon

**A** It's actually fairly easy to print background images, though the feature is somewhat hidden. Launch Internet Explorer and visit a page that you'd like to print. Select Print from the File menu. In the window that appears, you should see a pop-up menu currently displaying the word General. Select Internet Explorer from this menu to access IE5's print options. The second item in the left hand column is Print Background, and fittingly, it's unchecked. Click the box to turn on the option, and click the Save Settings button in the lower left. This ensures that the next time you print a Web page, you'll get the background, too.

**Q** I attempted to follow your directions in MacHome's October issue to create an emergency backup of my System Folder using Disk Copy. Somehow, I seemed to have gone astray. I trashed the SystemFolderBackup.img after moving the SystemFolderBackup disk to my Utilities folder. I am assuming it is some sort of an image file, although it doesn't appear any different from the current System Folder. The only notable change is that the folder itself lacks the smiling Mac OS icon. Now, when I run Norton Utilities it tells me I have a major problem because I have two System Folders on my hard drive! Can you help me?

— Marilyn Wilder

**A** It's very important to keep all files that end with ".img" when using Disk Copy. The extension ".img" denotes the actual disk image file where the contents of the pseudo-disk are stored. Disk image files have a document icon with a blue disk inside of it. Double-clicking the file mounts the disk

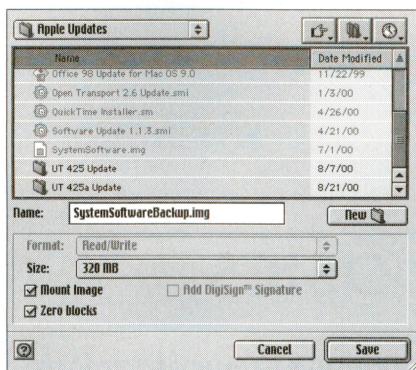


image on the desktop like a hard drive, allowing you to copy files to and from it. You can get rid of any mounted disk image by either dragging it to the trash or pressing Command-Y. Like a CD or Zip Disk, the mounted image is "ejected," and removed from the desktop, while the original image file remains safe and sound wherever you may have stored it. In your case, you should not have trashed the file called SystemFolderBackup.img. That file contained the actual backup of the System Folder, and it's that file you should have stored in your Utilities Folder. Your letter leads me to believe that you actually dragged

the mounted disk image —SystemFolderBackup— to your Utilities folder instead. This effectively created an uncompressed copy of the System Folder that Norton Utilities has complained about. It appears with a blank folder icon since it is not the currently active system software. To correct this problem, you must remove the second System Folder from the Utilities folder and trash it.

Then, follow my instructions again, taking care to keep the file SystemFolderBackup.img in a safe location. **MHJ**

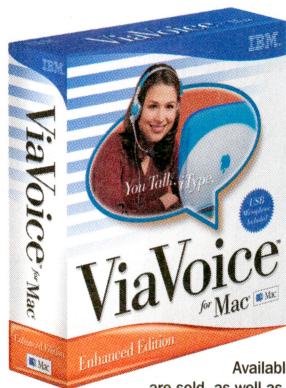
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# Computer Basics

*A simple look at the inner workings of your Macintosh*

**Although the iMac has** certainly simplified our notion of computers, at heart the machines remain rather complicated marvels. And while there is no need to delve into the specifics, it is helpful for you to understand the function and relationships between your computer's basic components.

## More Megabytes

Your hard drive can be considered a large bookshelf. Just as you store books and papers on that shelf, you store applications and files on the hard drive. The larger the bookshelf you have, the more items you can fit onto it. The same holds true for a hard drive. The larger the capacity, measured in gigabytes (GB), the more applications, games, movies, and sound files you can store.

Since we're considering the hard drive a bookshelf, we can think of random access memory (RAM) as the surface of a desk. This is where you actively work with items from the bookshelf. Let's say you want to use AppleWorks. Double-clicking its icon tells your Macintosh to load the appli-

**By Chris McVeigh**

cation in memory. In essence, AppleWorks is taken from the

bookshelf and opened on the desk.

The amount of memory in your Macintosh, measured in megabytes (MB), determines the size of your desktop. The bigger your desk, the more books you can open at one time. Adding memory to your Macintosh allows you to open more applications at once, which can help get some tasks done more efficiently. After all, it can be a quite a pain in the neck to take a book off the shelf, read a passage, and then have to put it back before you can take down another book.

## Many Megahertz

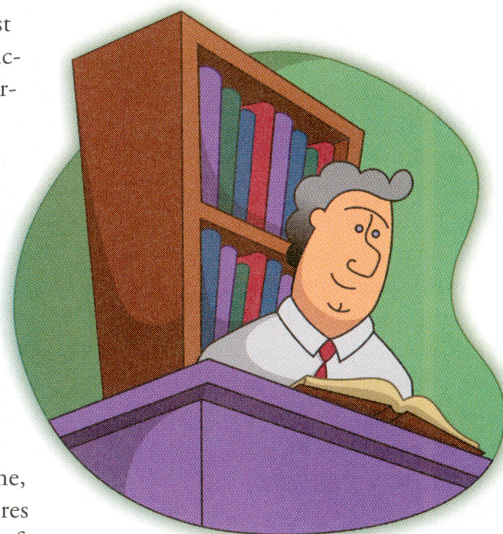
Nothing gets accomplished, however, without the involvement of the central processing unit, commonly referred to as the processor. The processor is the real workhorse of your Macintosh, carrying out the millions of instructions thrown at it each second with a blind diligence. The speed of a processor, measured in megahertz (MHz), determines

just how fast those instructions are performed.

The processor actually has a small desktop of its own, which is known as Level-2 cache, where it stores items it uses frequently. Since this small amount of memory (usually 256k to 1MB) is integrated into the processor, items can be stored and retrieved much faster than they can from regular memory.

To further our analogy, let's think of each application as a how-to book that gives the processor specific instructions to accomplish a certain task. Now let's say you want to write a letter. You look to the bookshelf to find AppleWorks and then move it to the desk. Here, you add your own data by typing out the letter.

Following the instructions given to it by AppleWorks, the processor takes your data and lays it onto the representation of a piece of paper on your computer screen. Once you're happy with the letter, you can save it, placing a new paper onto the bookshelf (i.e., a brand new file on your hard drive). **MHJ**





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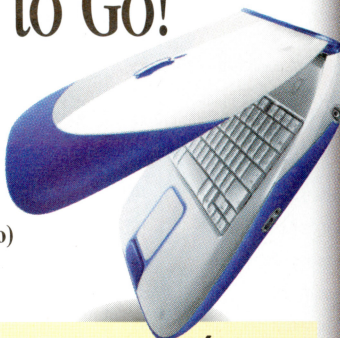
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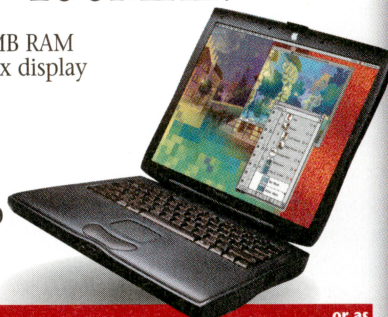
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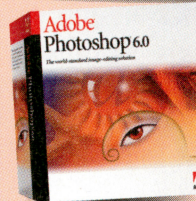
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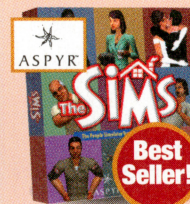
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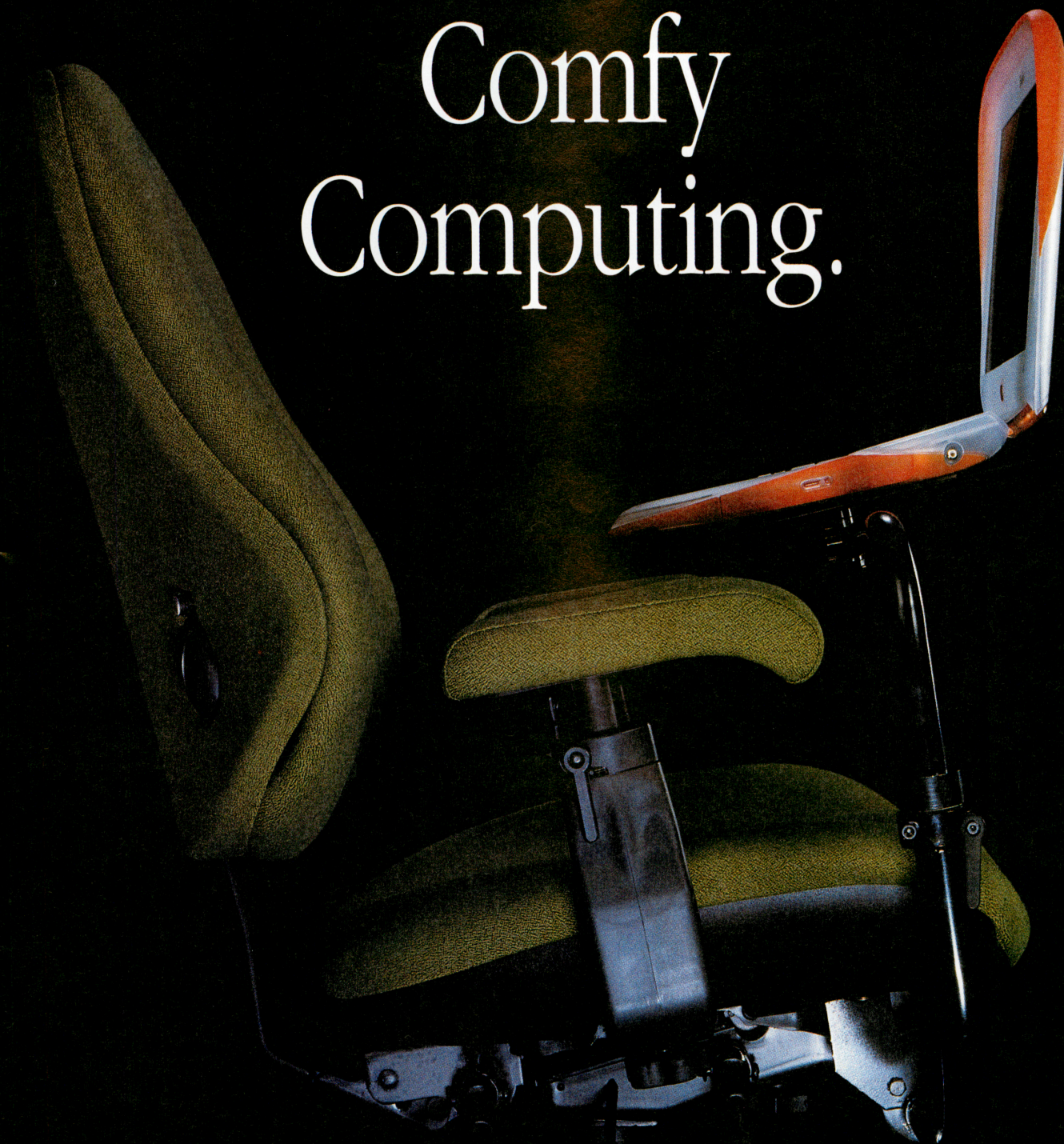

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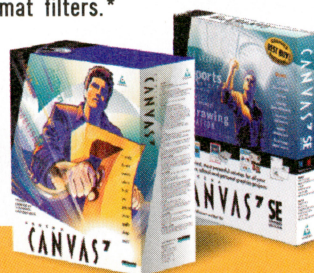
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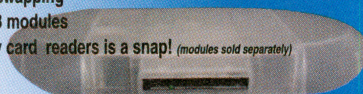
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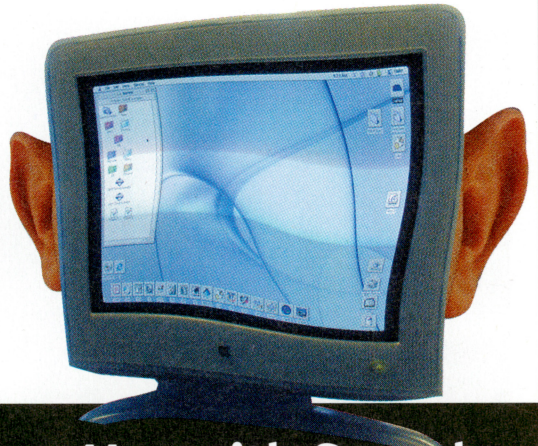
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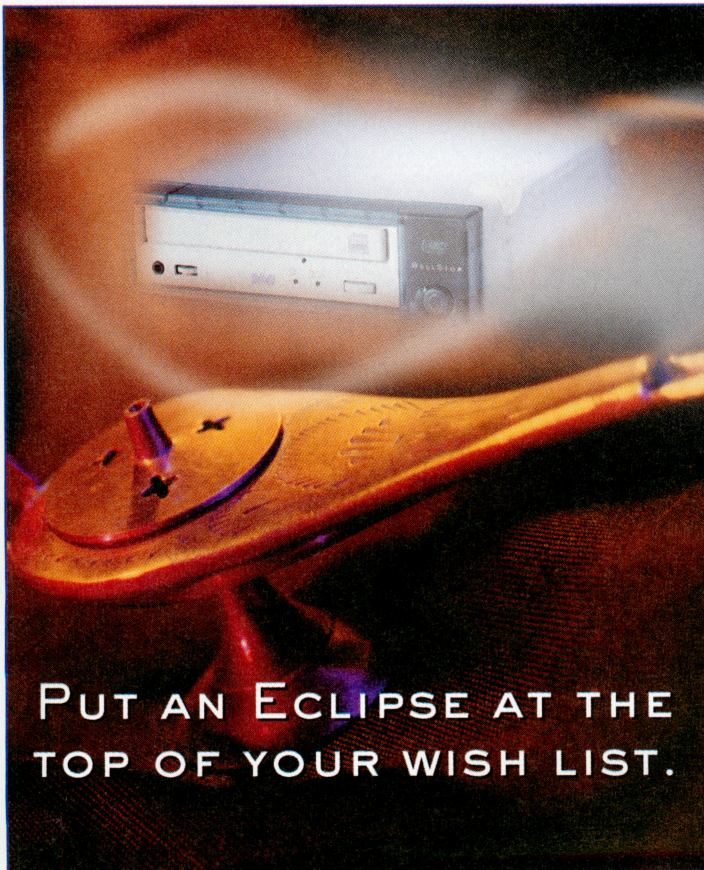
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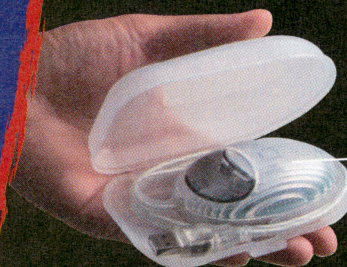
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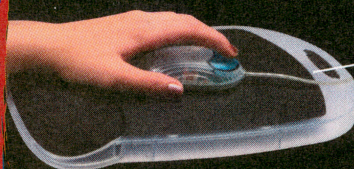


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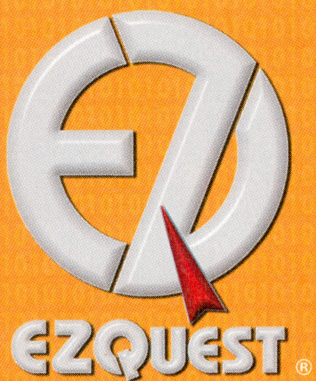
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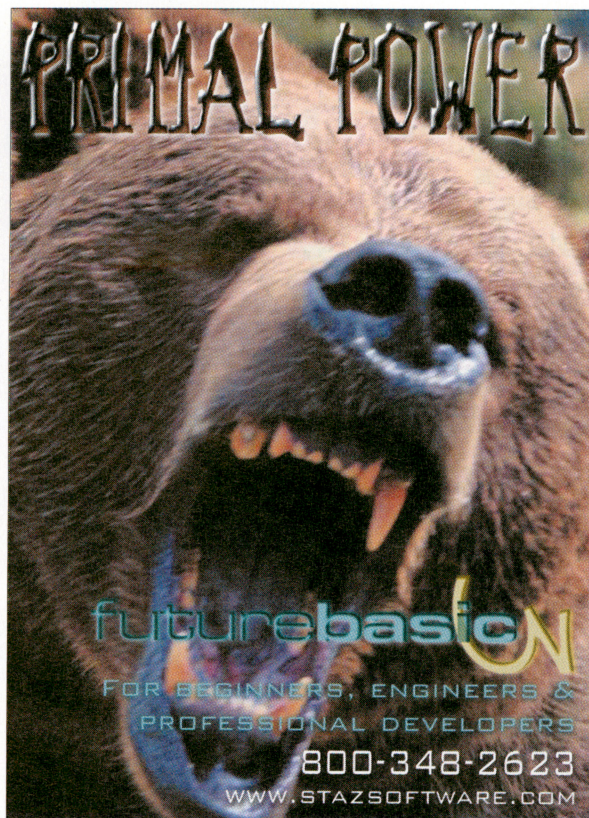
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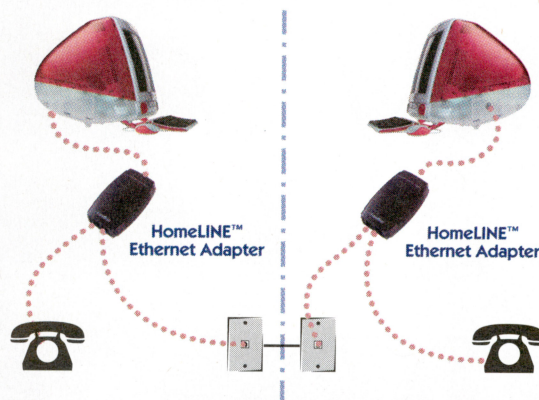
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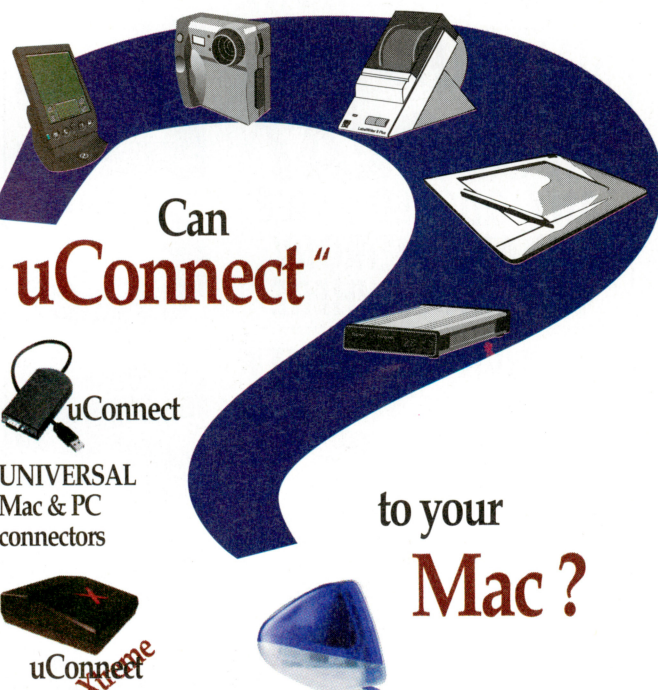


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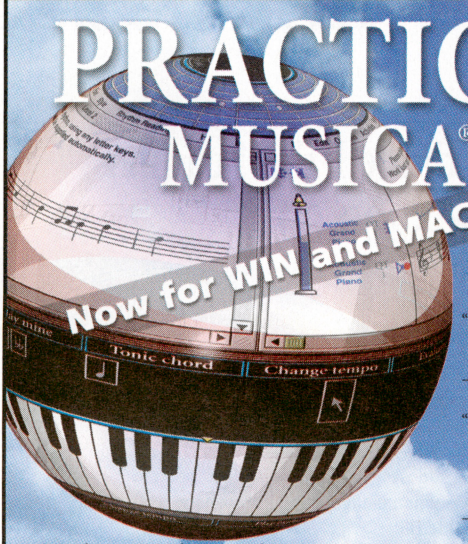
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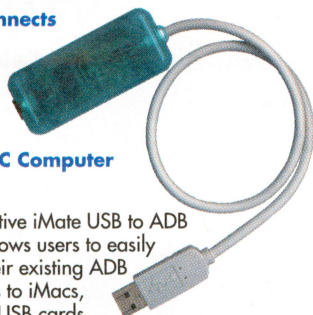


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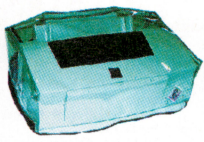
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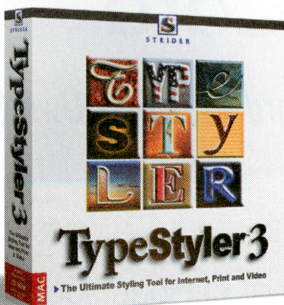
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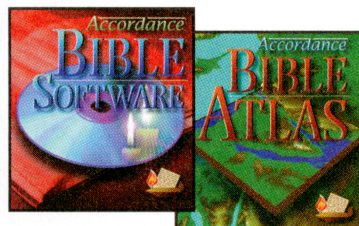


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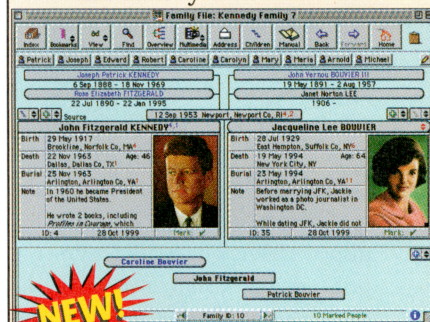
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# Here's My Card

*Create Your Own Business Card with Your Own Photo*

**A business card is a great way** to introduce yourself, particularly when you add a photo for that personal touch. This month I'll show you how to do that, using only your wits, Microsoft Word, and a free utility. I'll also show you how to put your photos in a circular frame for an even greater impact.

Before you begin, you'll need some perforated business card stock, which you can purchase from an office supply shop. Do this so you have the product number and dimensions handy when you set up your document. You'll also need a digital photo of yourself. So the image will fit into the circular frame correctly, crop your photo so it's centered, using Adobe Photoshop ([www.adobe.com](http://www.adobe.com)), or the free Graphic Converter ([www.lemkesoft.de](http://www.lemkesoft.de)).

**Step 1** Open Word and choose Envelopes and Labels from the Tools menu. Choose the Labels tab and then Options. Select the stock number of your business cards from the list, select OK, and choose New Document.

**By Helen Bradley**

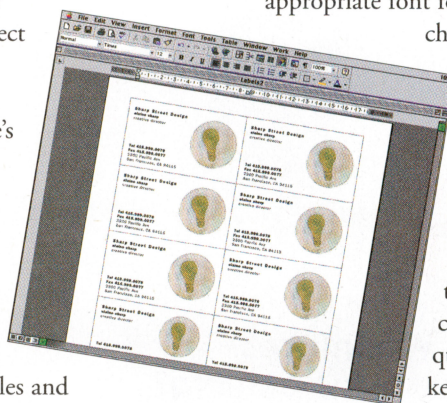
**Step 2** If you don't see the table's gridlines, select Table, Gridlines to display them. The gridlines don't print; they just show you where the cards are on the page and help you line everything up. If the Tables and Borders toolbar isn't visible, display it by selecting Toolbars from the View Menu, and then Tables and Borders. If the Drawing toolbar isn't visible, display it by selecting Toolbars from the View menu, and then by selecting Drawing.

**Step 3** It's best to concentrate on the card in the top-left corner and then, when that's complete, copy and paste the text and image to form the other cards. To create your circular image, choose the Oval tool on the Drawing tool-

bar and hold the Shift key as you drag a circle into the right side of the top-left business card. Notice that the Shift key draws a circle rather than an oval.

**Step 4** Click on the circle to select it, then choose Format, then AutoShape, then click on the Colors and Lines tab and set the Line Color to No Line. From the Fill Color drop-down list choose Fill Effects. Select the Picture tab, locate your photo, click Insert, and then click OK twice.

**Step 5** Click in the top-left cell and type your name, title, and business name with contact details. Choose an appropriate font for your text — Arial or Verdana are safe choices if you're unsure. Place your name in a large type size (14 points) and set other details to a smaller size (such as 8–10 points).



**Step 6** When the first card is complete, copy the elements from the first card to create the others. Selecting the text on the card and choose Copy, then click in another cell and choose Paste. To quickly copy the image, hold the Option key as you click-and-drag a copy of the image away from the original.

**Step 7** When you have created the remaining cards on the sheet, save your document. Print a copy of the cards on plain paper and then hold it over the top of your business card stock to make sure everything lines up correctly. When it does, you can print the document on your special business card paper. Then you're done! **MHJ**



# Medicine For Your Mac



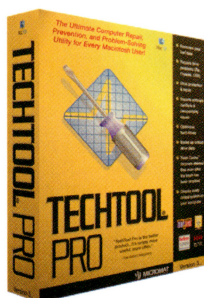
Nothing can ruin your day faster than a sick and ailing computer. And while Macintosh is one of the most reliable computers in the world, sometimes things can go wrong. That's why we invented TechTool Pro. TechTool Pro is the super-utility that can find and isolate almost any problem on your computer. No other utility in the world comes even close to covering as many aspects of your Macintosh as TechTool Pro.

But diagnosing computer maladies is only half the battle. Besides repairing drives, recovering data and checking the health of your Macintosh components, TechTool Pro can now help protect you against virus problems and software conflicts. TechTool Pro can also keep your Mac running at its peak between problems. The program optimizes your disk drive to make your computer run faster and more efficiently. Our RAM panel even allows

you to see the inner configuration of your memory without needing to open the case.

Do all these features make TechTool Pro complicated to use? Not at all. The MultiTester feature allows you to give your computer a full checkup with one click of your mouse. TechTool Pro even creates graphic, easy-to-read and understand reports. Now you can know the state of your computer without having a degree in computer science.

Every day, more and more Macintosh professionals are choosing TechTool over other system utilities. In fact, even Apple Computer includes TechTool Deluxe with every copy of their AppleCare™ Protection Plan. Simply put, TechTool Pro 3 is the most complete and powerful troubleshooting utility available for your computer. Why would you settle for anything less?



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\* This is a dramatization. Do not attempt to plug box into game console. Silly doll box not available in stores.

**FARKK 2**